

FRANKEN FRANK

7



story and art
**KATSUHISA
KIGITSU**

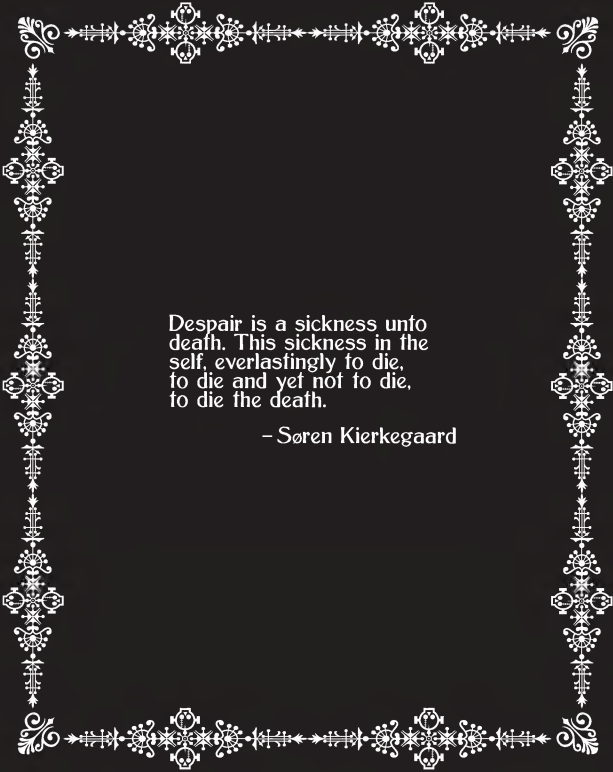






7

Franken ♡ Fran
Katsuhisa Kigitsu



Despair is a sickness unto
death. This sickness in the
self, everlastingly to die,
to die and yet not to die,
to die the death.

– Søren Kierkegaard

THESE DAMNED ZOMBIES...
THE BARREL'S BURNING UP.

CHRIST...

KACHAK

A black and white illustration of a hand holding a handgun. The hand is positioned in the lower right, with fingers wrapped around the grip. The handgun is pointed upwards and to the left. Above the hand, there is a speech bubble containing the text 'THESE DAMNED ZOMBIES... THE BARREL'S BURNING UP.' and 'CHRIST...'. To the left of the hand, the sound effect 'KACHAK' is written vertically in a stylized font. The background is plain white.

HOW
DID
THIS
ALL
BEGIN...

WELL, I'D
PERSONALLY
GO WITH
CANNIBALISTIC,
EQUILIBRIUM-
CHALLENGED,
IMMUNO-
DEFICIENT--

THAT'S
PRETTY
MUCH
THE
TEXTBOOK
DEFINI-
TION!!

WHAT
ELSE
WOULD
YOU
CALL
THEM?!

BUT
THAT'S
NO
REASON
TO USE
THE ZED
WORD.

TRUE, THESE
CREATURES
DO APPEAR TO
BE CORPSES
WHO HAVE
MYSTERIOUSLY
RETURNED FROM
THE DEAD.
AND THEY DO
APPEAR TO
BE FEASTING
ON THE LIVING...

OH!!
NOW
LET'S NOT
JUMP TO
CONCLU-
SIONS
HERE.

UUUAAAAH!

ア ア ア ア

ア ア

ア ア

KO
BANG

KO
BANG

TOO
DAMN
LONG
!!

THE
ISLAND OF
VAZESHIA,
ONE OF
A GROUP OF
ISLANDS
NEAR
HAITI IN THE
CARIBBEAN.

ROOOOOOO!

Ep.47 / LIVING DEAD

PATIENTS
DETERIO-
RATE
RAPIDLY,
AND DIE
WITHIN
DAYS.

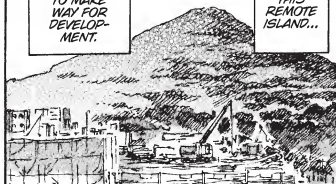
ITS
VICTIMS
EXPERIENCE
DIZZINESS
AND
NAUSEA,
ALONG WITH
NERVE
DAMAGE.

VARZEL
FEVER.



...AND
MOWA-
POZEH'S
WOODS WERE
BURNED
TO MAKE
WAY FOR
DEVELOP-
MENT.

BUT TIME
DOES NOT
STAND
STILL
EVEN ON
THIS
REMOTE
ISLAND...



PEOPLE
BELIEVED
THAT IF YOU
ENCOUNTERED
MOWAPOZEH,
THE EVIL SPIRIT
OF THE WOODS,
IT WOULD MEAN
YOUR DEATH.
THIS SPIRIT
WAS BOTH
FEARED AND
REVERED.

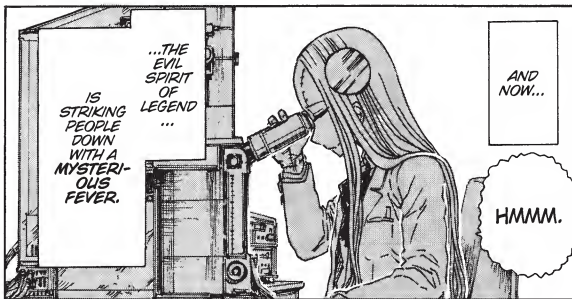
LONG
AGO ON
VAZESHIA
ISLAND...

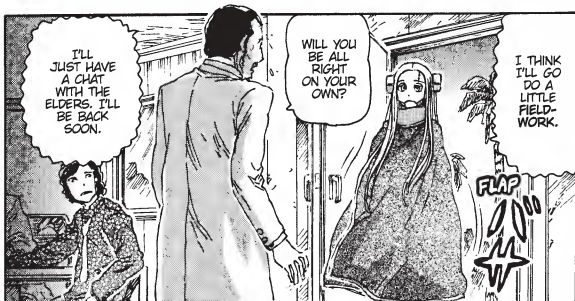
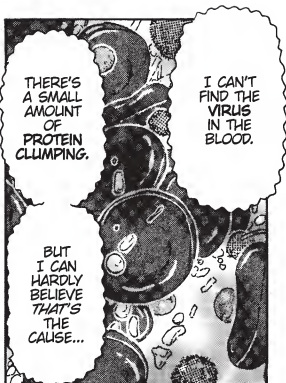
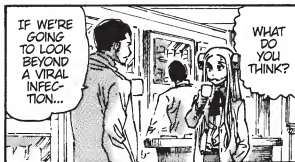


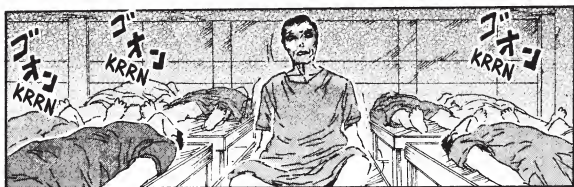
...THE
EVIL
SPIRIT
OF
LEGEND
...
IS
STRIKING
PEOPLE
DOWN
WITH A
MYSTERI-
OUS
FEVER.

AND
NOW...

HMMM.





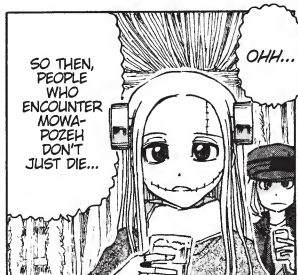
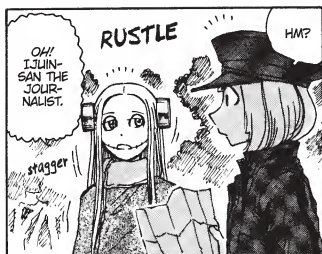


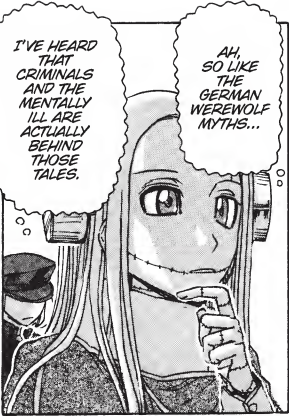


THE DEAD
!!

ZOM-
BIES
!!

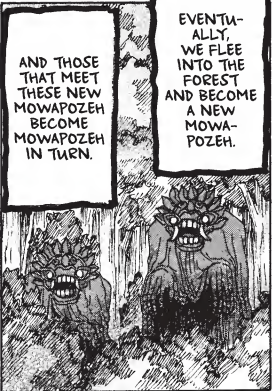
THE
DEAD
ARE
WALK-
ING!!





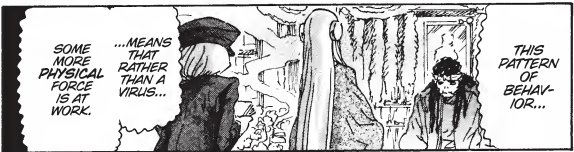
I'VE HEARD
THAT
CRIMINALS
AND THE
MENTALLY
ILL ARE
ACTUALLY
BEHIND
THOSE
TALES.

AH,
SO LIKE
THE
GERMAN
WEREWOLF
MYTHS...



AND THOSE
THAT MEET
THESE NEW
MOWAPOZEH
BECOME
MOWAPOZEH
IN TURN.

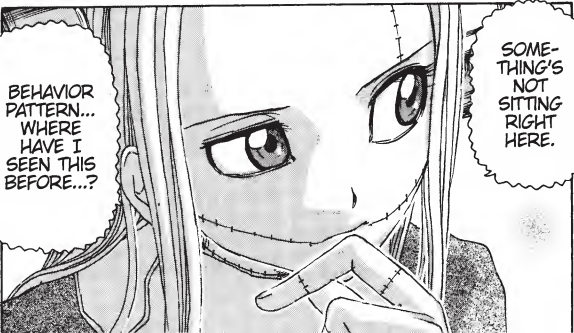
EVENTU-
ALLY,
WE FLEE
INTO THE
FOREST
AND BECOME
A NEW
MOWA-
POZEH.



SOME
MORE
PHYSICAL
FORCE
IS AT
WORK.

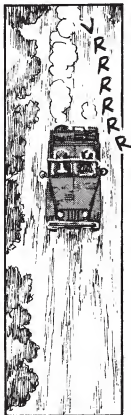
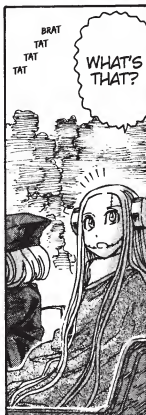
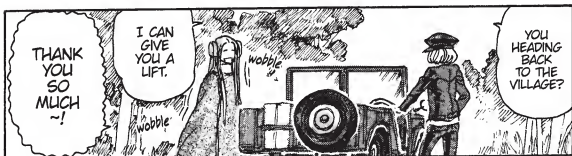
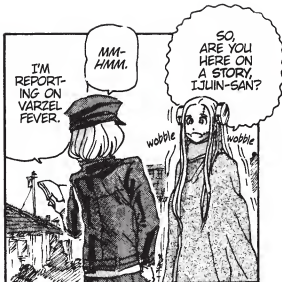
...MEANS
THAT
RATHER
THAN A
VIRUS...

THIS
PATTERN
OF
BEHAV-
IOR...



BEHAVIOR
PATTERN...
WHERE
HAVE I
SEEN THIS
BEFORE...?

SOME-
THING'S
NOT
SITTING
RIGHT
HERE.



WHA
--?!

THIS
IS
...!

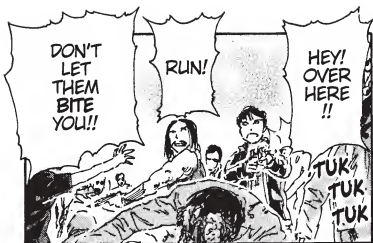
Uuuuaaa!

EEEE!

Aaaa!

オオオオ
RRURRH!
オオオオ





*I urge
you not
to panic
over the
current
situation.*

PRESENT



*We
are in a
state of
emergency.
Everyone,
please
remain
calm.*

*Even if you
see a familiar
face, you
must by
no means
approach
them.
They are
extremely
dangerous.*



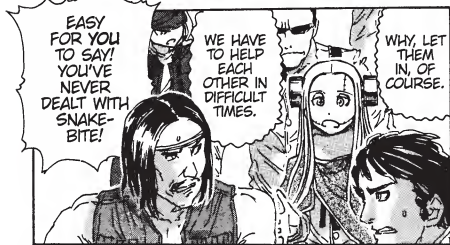
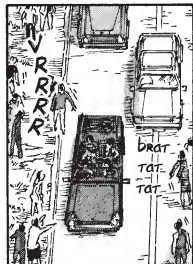
*The
bodies
of our
dead have
begun
returning
to life.*

*But we
must
remain
calm
and act
rationally.*

*I
believe
we will
prevail.*

*Communi-
cations
between the
island and the
outside world
have been
completely
cut off.*







PEOPLE
SAY THEY
SMOKE AND
EAT THE
ORGANS
OF ANYONE
WHO GOES
AGAINST
THEM.

THEY'RE
BETTER
ARMED
THAN THE
COPS, SO
NO ONE
CAN TOUCH
THEM.

SNAKE-
BITE'S
THE MOST
VICIOUS
GANG
ON THE
ISLAND.

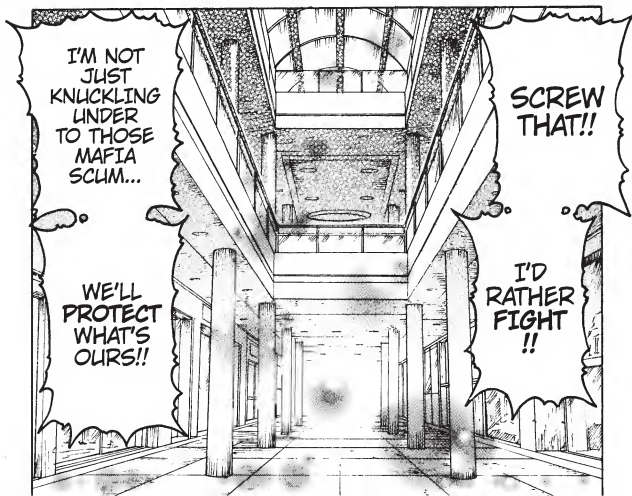


WE'LL
SIMPLY
HAVE TO
REBUILD
SOCIETY
HERE--

.....

THINGS
HAVE
BEEN
GOING
WELL SO
FAR,
BUT...

WELL,
I GUESS
PARADISE
NEVER
LASTS
FOR LONG.

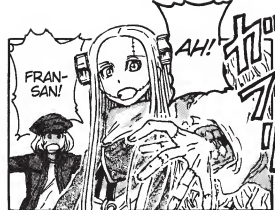


I'M NOT
JUST
KNUCKLING
UNDER
TO THOSE
MAFIA
SCUM...

**SCREW
THAT!!**

WE'LL
PROTECT
WHAT'S
OURS!!

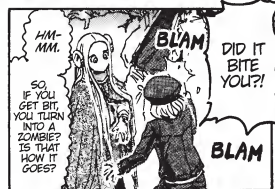
I'D
RATHER
FIGHT
!!



FRAN-SAN!

AH!!

7!!

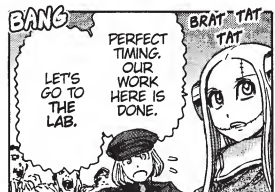


HMM...

BLAM!

DID IT BITE YOU?!

BLAM

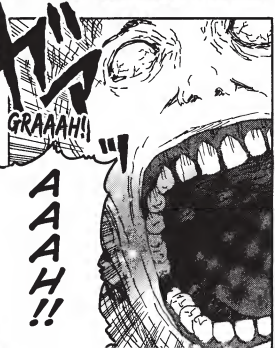


BANG

PERFECT TIMING. OUR WORK HERE IS DONE.

BRAT TAT TAT

LET'S GO TO THE LAB.



GRAAAH!!

AAAH!!

DIE, MAFIA SCUM!

JOIN THE ZOMBIES !!

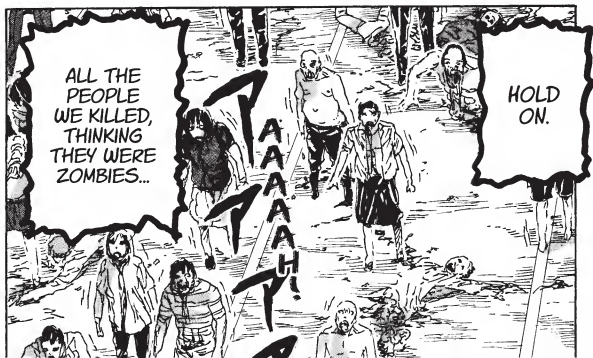
DAMNED ZOMBIES!!

YOU DAMNED VULTURES!!

DIE!

THE ZOMBIES... THE ZOMBIES ARE GETTING IN!!





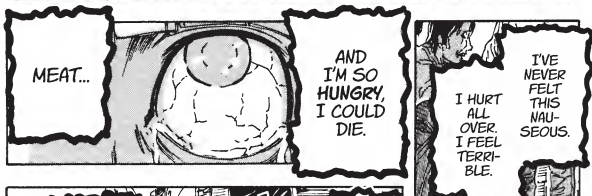


THE
SECOND
STAGE
OF
VARZEL
FEVER...

THEY
WERE
JUST
SICK!!

YOU
JUST
LOOK
LIKE
YOU'RE
DEAD.

UUAH!!



MEAT...

AND
I'M SO
HUNGRY,
I COULD
DIE.

I HURT
ALL
OVER.
I FEEL
TERRI-
BLE.

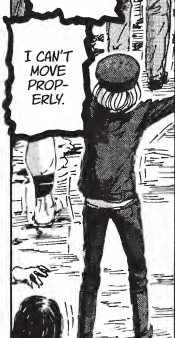
I'VE
NEVER
FELT
THIS
NAU-
SEOUS.



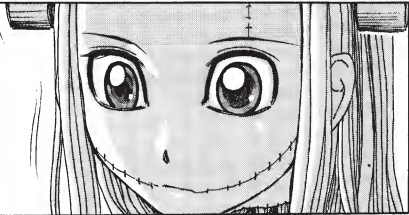
SOME-
ONE...
MEAT
.....

オオオオ
RRUURH...

HELP...



I CAN'T
MOVE
PROP-
ERLY.



HM-
MMM.



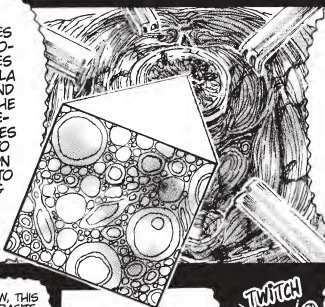
VARZEL
FEVER...

I
SEE.

...IS
CAUSED
BY A
PARASITE
IN THE
MEDULLA
OBLON-
GATA.

WHEN IT COMES TIME TO REPRODUCE, IT MOVES TO THE MEDULLA OBLONGATA AND TAKES OVER THE BODY'S MOVEMENT. IT GUIDES THE HUMAN TO FIND NUTRITION AND RETURN TO ITS BREEDING GROUND IN THE FOREST.

THE PARASITE ENTERS THE HOST, TRANSMITTED VIA A BITE. IT GROWS, AND MOVES THROUGHOUT THE BODY.



IT JUST BARELY MANAGED TO SURVIVE.

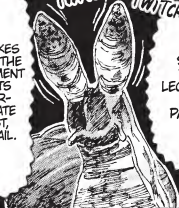
NOW, THIS PARASITE WAS ORIGINALLY LIMITED TO A HOST NATIVE TO THIS ISLAND...

ONCE THE SNAIL IS EATEN BY THE DEFINITIVE HOST, A BIRD, THE PARASITE CAN REPRODUCE WITHIN THE BIRD.

IT TAKES OVER THE MOVEMENT OF ITS INTERMEDIATE HOST, A SNAIL.

TWITCH TWITCH

SIMILAR TO THE *LEOCOCHLO-
RIDILUM* PARASITE.



RR

MEANWHILE, THOSE PARASITIZED HUMANS BECAME THINGS FROM A HORROR MOVIE.

UURHH...

AND IT BEGAN TO THRIVE.

BUT THEN, SOMEHOW, IT DEVELOPED THE ABILITY TO PARASITIZE HUMANS...



I HURT!
I'M IN SO
MUCH
PAIN,
I WANT
TO DIE!

HELP
ME!

RRUR...

THEY'RE
EXACTLY
LIKE
ZOMBIES.



I'M
ALIVE--

IT'S A
PIECE
OF
CAKE!

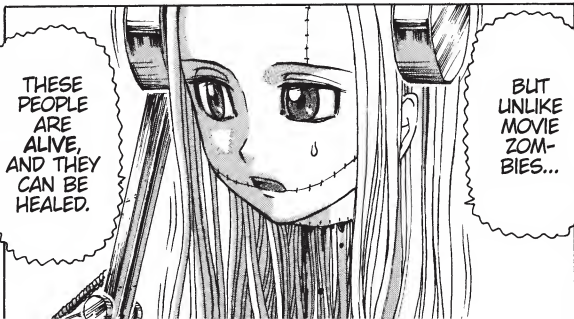
MAN,
THEY'RE
SLOW!

KILL
'EM!



THESE
PEOPLE
ARE
ALIVE,
AND THEY
CAN BE
HEALED.

BUT
UNLIKE
MOVIE
ZOM-
BIES...



OF
COURSE,
THESE
PEOPLE
ARE ACTING
OUT OF
SELF-
DEFENSE...

AND
THEY'RE
TERRIFIED,
WHICH IS
UNDER-
STANDABLE.

オオオオ
KRUUR...

YWEE

BUT
IF WE
DON'T
MOVE
QUICK-
LY...

THEY'LL
ALL
BE
KILLED.



THE
MOVIES
REALLY
GOT IT
RIGHT
FOR
ONCE.



THEY'RE
HAVING A
BLAST
HUNTING
"ZOMBIES"
AND
LOOTING.

NOT TO
MEN-
TION...

BUT IT'D
BE NICE
IF THE
MOVIES
SHOWED
A LITTLE
RESTRAI-
INT.

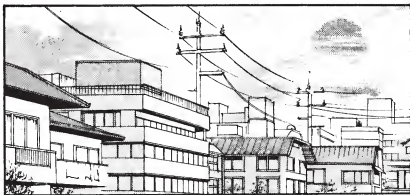
ONCE THE
ZOMBIES
APPEAR, IT
BECOMES
A GLEEFUL
BLOOD-
BATH.

オオ
RRUURH...

AND
THAT
MEANS...



Ep.48 / CANNIBALISM



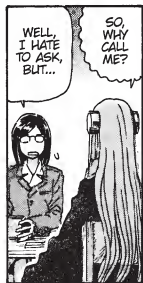
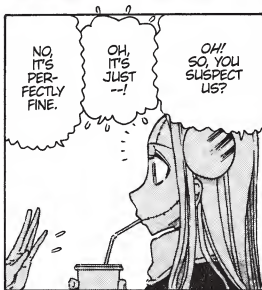
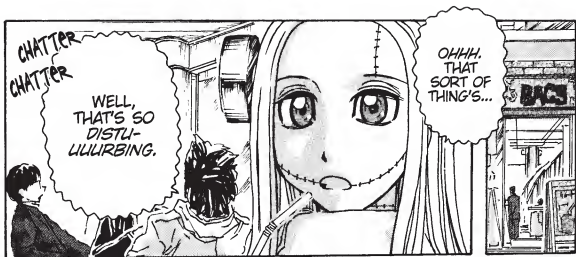
Ep.48 / CANNIBALISM

THE
METROPOLITAN
POLICE
DEPARTMENT
HAS INFORMED
US THAT THERE
IS A STRONG
POSSIBILITY
OF VIOLENCE
ACROSS A
WIDE AREA.

THESE
INCIDENTS
ARE OCCUR-
RING IN
OTHER
PREFECTURES
AS WELL.
THE MOS ARE
STRIKINGLY
SIMILAR.

WE'VE
SEEN A
STRING OF
RANDOM
ATTACKS
IN EVERY
JURISDI-
CTION.





AND WHO
MAY JUST
BE GOING
AFTER THE
GREATEST
TABOO
OF ALL.

THEY
SUSPECT IT'S
A DEVIANT
WHO'S
TURNED ON
BY VIOLATING
TABOOS...

AT THE
STATION,
THEY'VE
BEEN
WORKING
UP A
PROFILE.

BUT
HUMAN
FLESH IS
JUST LIKE
POOO-
OORR.

NO ONE'S
GONE
MISSING
FROM MY
LAAAAAAB.

OH,
REALLY?

PLEASE
LET ME
HELP
FROM
THE
SHADOWS.

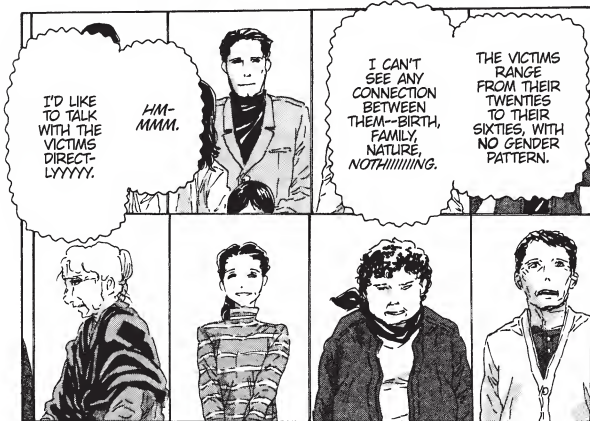
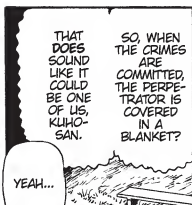
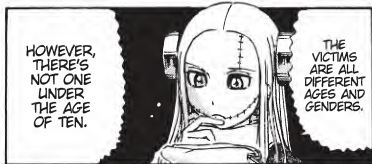
I'M NOT
TERRIBLY
HAPPY
ABOUT IT.

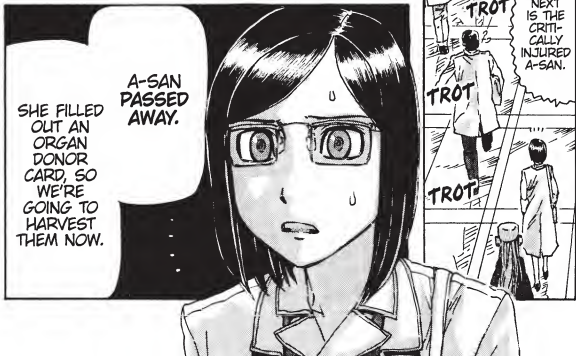
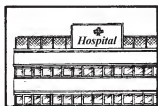
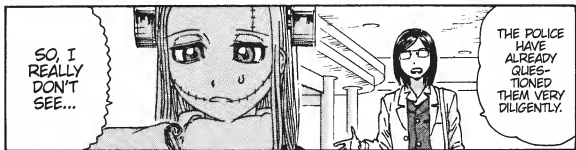
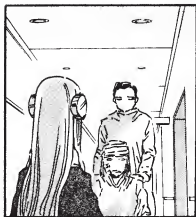
WELL, I DO
UNDERSTAND
WHY YOU
WOULD
SUSPECT
US, BUT...

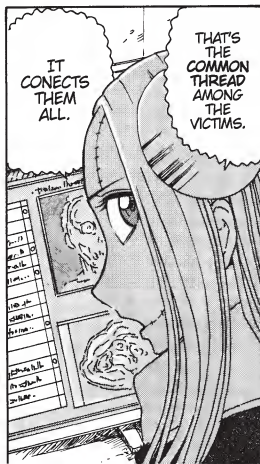
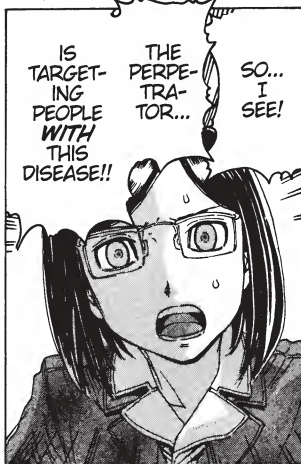
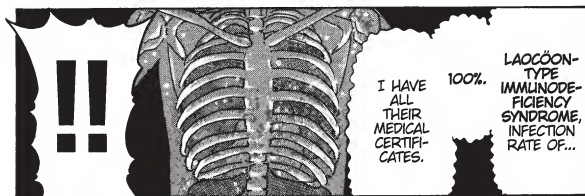
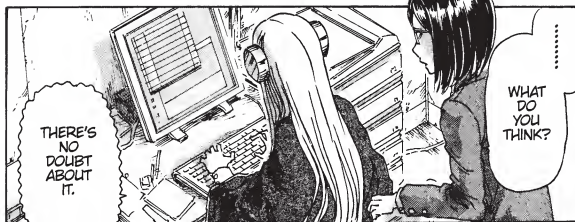
OH,
GOOD-
NESS--
I HAVEN'T
EATEN IT.

WHAT
...?!

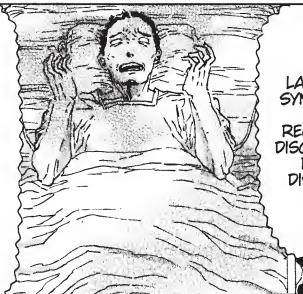
IT'S
JUST THAT
THE COM-
POSITION
IS VERY
SIMILAR.







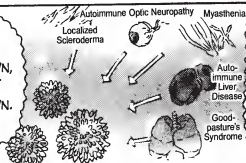
DUE TO AN AUTOIMMUNE DISORDER, YOUR BODY'S OWN DEFENSE MECHANISMS ATTACK AND DEVOUR YOU, BIT BY BIT.



LAOCOÖN SYNDROME IS A RECENTLY-DISCOVERED RARE DISEASE.

IT'S SAID TO BE A GENETIC DISORDER, BUT THE SUPPORT FOR THAT THEORY IS NOT TERRIBLY WELL DEVELOPED.

CAUSE UNKNOWN, TREATMENT UNKNOWN.



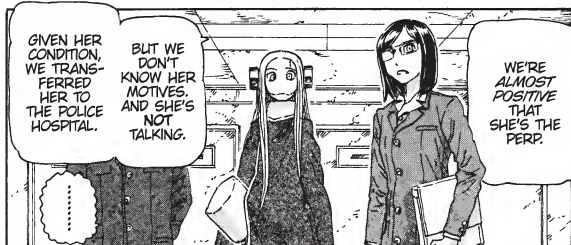
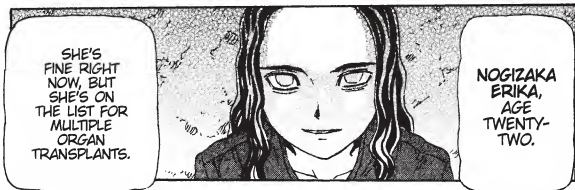
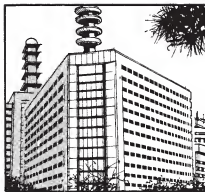
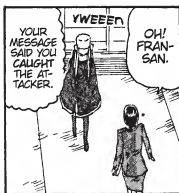
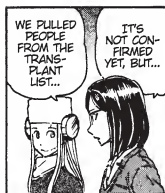
IT'S A COMPLEX DISEASE WITH A WIDE RANGE OF SYMPTOMS, AND IS OFTEN MISTAKEN FOR A NUMBER OF OTHER ILLNESSES.

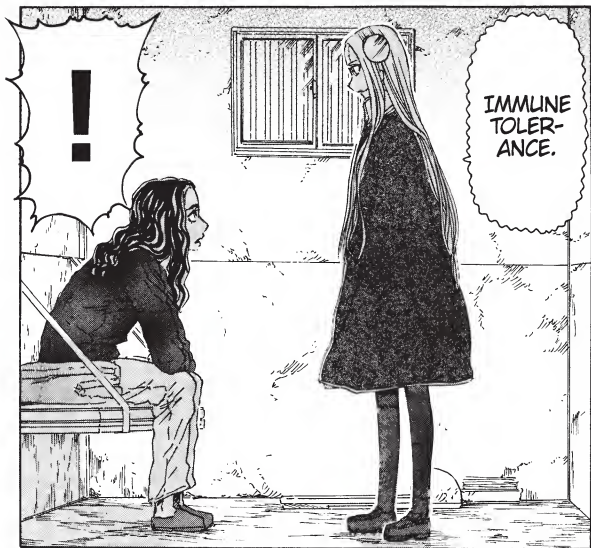
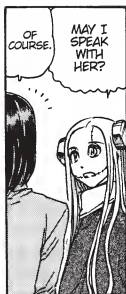
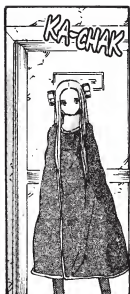
THE HEART, MUSCLES, AND SKIN ALL HAVE ALLERGIC REACTIONS, AND THEIR FUNCTIONALITY IS DESTROYED.

BUT THE SYMPTOMS GRADUALLY PROGRESS.

THE DISEASE DOES NOT KILL ITS VICTIMS IMMEDIATELY.







EVEN
THOUGH
YOU'RE
JUST A
KID...

WOW,
YOU
SURE
KNOW
YOUR
STUFF.

THE IMMUNE
SYSTEM DOESN'T
ATTACK THINGS
BROUGHT
INTO THE BODY
AS FOOD...
ALTHOUGH
SOME PEOPLE
DO HAVE FOOD
ALLERGIES.

TO MITIGATE
THE ATTACKS
OF THE
AUTOIMMUNE
DISORDER,
YOU TAKE IN
ANTIGENS
THROUGH
FOOD.

IMMUNO-
LOGICAL
TOLERANCE
IS A
SCIENTIFIC
FACT.

TAKING
ADVANTAGE OF
THIS FACT, YOU
REPEATEDLY
EXPOSE YOUR-
SELF TO THE
ALLERGEN TO
ACCLIMATE
YOUR BODY
TO IT.

BY SO DOING,
YOU CAN
PREVENT THE
IMMUNE
SYSTEM FROM
ATTACKING
MEDICINE
WHEN IT'S
ADMINISTERED.

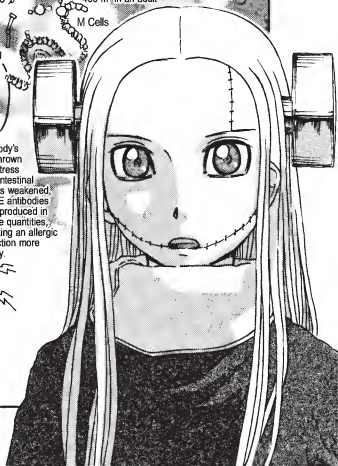
Any foreign bodies
are deemed to
be dangerous.
The immunity obtained
from this is fed back
into the body's overall
immunity. Since even
the simple act of putting
antigens in the
mouth carries the
risk of anaphylaxis,
do not attempt this.

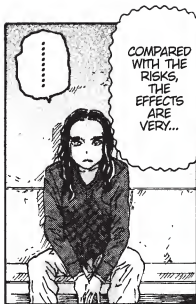
When the body's
balance is thrown
off due to stress
or illness, intestinal
immunity is weakened,
and IgE antibodies
are produced in
large quantities,
making an allergic
reaction more
likely.

Alimentary canal
interior approx.
400 m² in an adult

M Cells

Intestinal
Immune
System

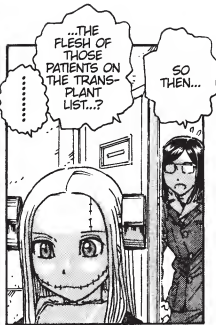




COMPARED
WITH THE
RISKS,
THE
EFFECTS
ARE
VERY...

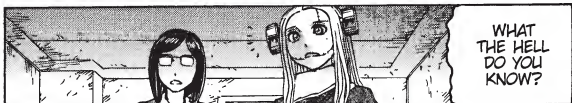


YOU
CAME UP
WITH THIS
METHOD
YOURSELF.
I ASSUME
THAT RATHER
THAN
FOLLOWING
SOME
OBSCURE
TRADITION...



...THE
FLESH OF
THOSE
PATIENTS ON
THE TRANS-
PLANT
LIST...?

SO
THEN...



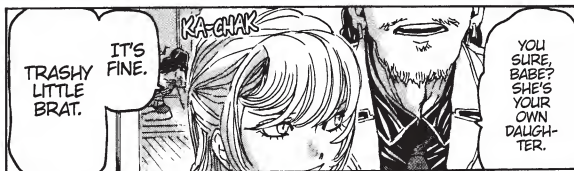
WHAT
THE HELL
DO YOU
KNOW?

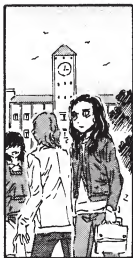


JUST
LIKE MY
HOUSE
AND MY
MEMO-
RIES.

MY
BODY'S
ALWAYS
BEEN A
PIECE OF
JUNK.



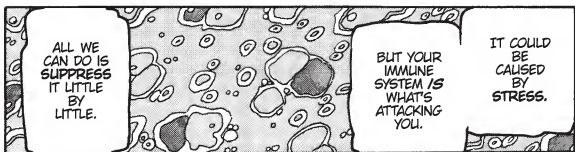
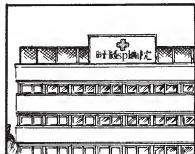




UH-HUH.

OUR ONLY
REAL
OPTION
IS TO GO
FORWARD
WITH
TREAT-
MENT...

IMMUNO-
DEFICIENCY,
HMM?
THIS IS
TRICKY.



ALL WE
CAN DO IS
SUPPRESS
IT LITTLE
BY
LITTLE.

BUT YOUR
IMMUNE
SYSTEM IS
WHAT'S
ATTACKING
YOU.

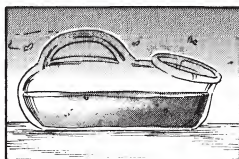
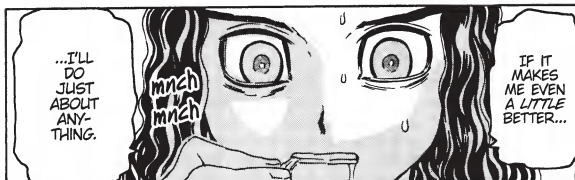
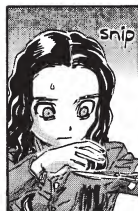
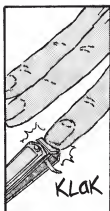
IT COULD
BE
CAUSED
BY
STRESS.

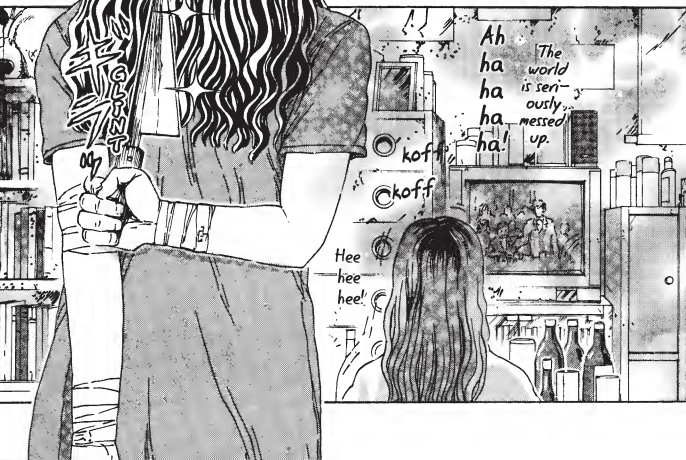
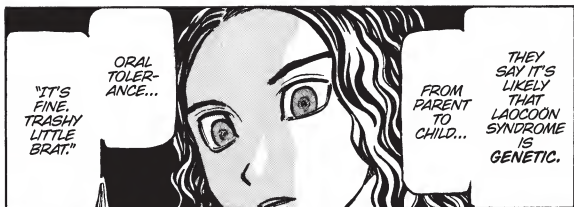
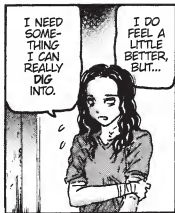
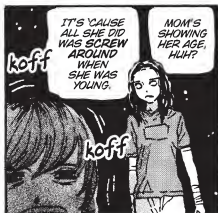
IF I
JUST
EAT MY
OWN
BODY...?

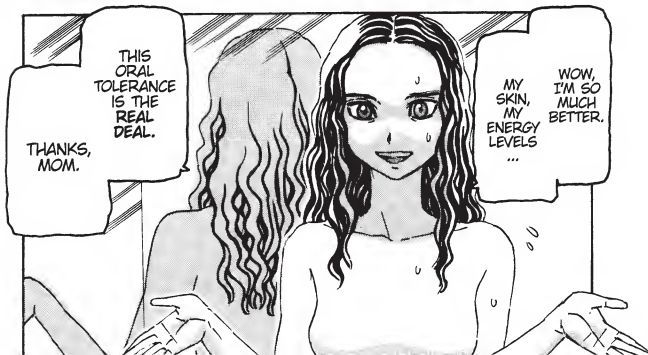
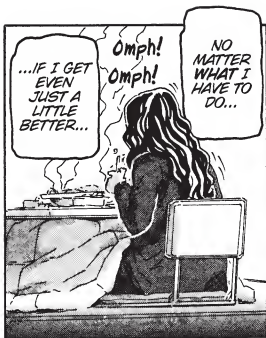
SO...

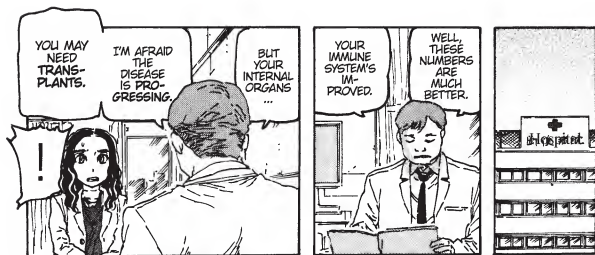
"ORAL
TOLER-
ANCE"?!











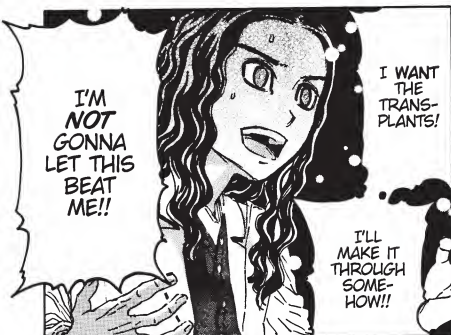


!!

BUT
THEN,
THE
CANCER
...

YOUR
IMMUNE
ISSUES
WILL
RECUR.

UNFORTU-
NATELY, IF
YOU GET
TRANS-
PLANTS...



I'M
NOT
GONNA
LET THIS
BEAT
ME!!

I WANT
THE
TRANS-
PLANTS!

I'LL
MAKE IT
THROUGH
SOME-
HOW!!



NOGI-
ZAKA-
SAN?

.....
Heh
heh
heh!



PLEASE
REACH
OUT
TO ME.

BUT
IF THE
TRANSPLANT
SURGERY
PROVES
TOO DIFFI-
CULT...

WHAT
SHE'S
DONE
IS A
CRIME...

I'LL
TAKE
RESPON-
SIBILITY
FOR
HER.



SO THAT'S
WHY SHE
ATTACKED
THE
VICTIMS.

I
SEE.



KA-CHAK

**I'M
START-
ING
THE
OPER-
ATION!!**

**SPEED
IS OF
THE
ESSENCE!**

**GIVEN THE
PATIENT'S
CONDITION,
KEEP
INCISIONS
AS SMALL
AS
POSSIBLE!**

**WE'LL
BE DOING
MULTIPLE
TRANS-
PLANTS
HERE!!**



**PLEASE
BRING
HER
OVER.**



**YES, I
UNDER-
STAND.**

**STAFF,
SCRUB
IN!!**

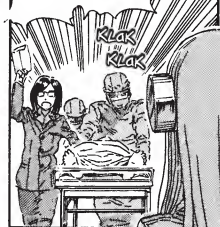


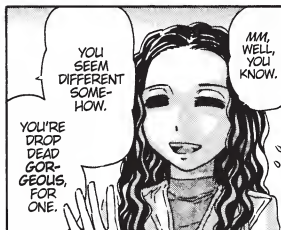
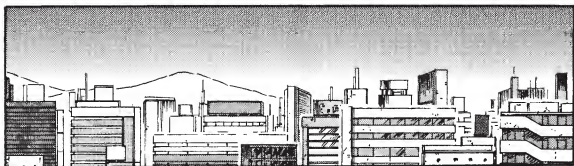
**OPEN
OPER-
ATING
ROOM
NUMBER
TWO!**

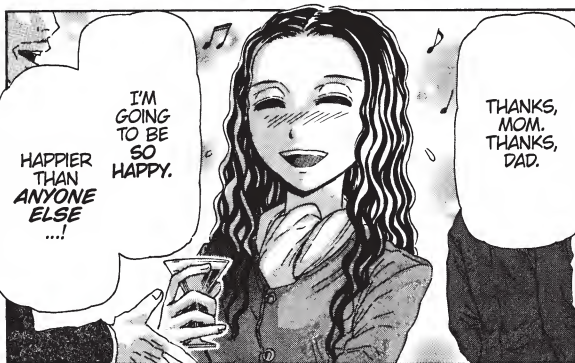
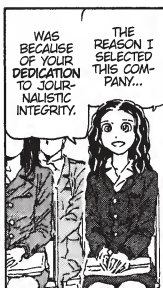
**HERE
ARE THE
TRANS-
PLANT
AGREE-
MENTS!!**

**WE
HAVE
DONORS!**

**KUHO-
SAN!!**







IT'S A
VARIANT
OF
CREUTZ-
FELDT-
JAKOB
DISEASE.

CONCENTRATED
PROTEINS
ARE PUSHING
INTO HER
BRAIN AND
CREATING
HOLES,
LIKE IN A
SPONGE.



HER
BRAIN'S
HOLLOW-
ING
OUT.

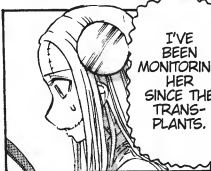


THE
LAST
BASTION
OF HU-
MANITY...

BUT I
NEVER
EXPECTED
HER
BRAIN
TO FAIL.



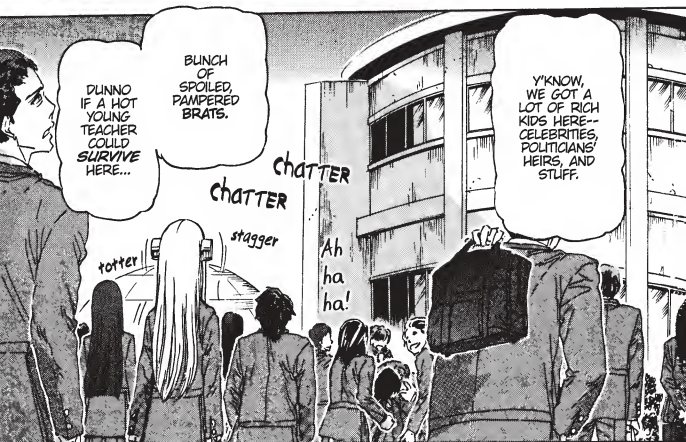
I'VE
BEEN
MONITORING
HER
SINCE THE
TRANS-
PLANTS.

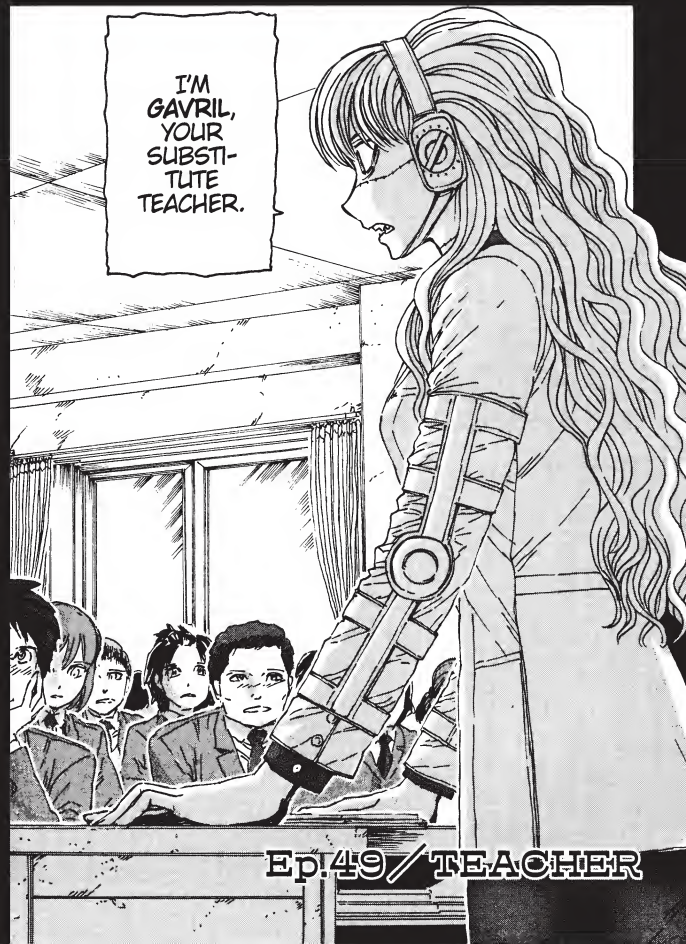


MAYBE
SHE'S
HAVING
SOME
LOVELY
DREAM...

BUT
SHE
LOOKS
SO
HAPPY.

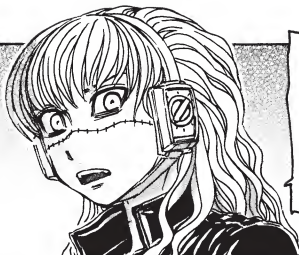
WHEN
ANIMALS
CANNIBALIZE
THEIR OWN
SPECIES
OVER A LONG
PERIOD, WE
SEE THE
SAME KIND
OF PRION
ANOMALIES...





WHY THE
HELL
WOULD I
EVER DO
THAT
LAME
CRAP?

TEACH-
ING?



WELL,
THEY SAID
THEY
NEEDED
SOMEONE
WITH A
DOC-
TORATE...

HUIH?

BESIDES,
THEY WON'T
ACCEPT A
REGULAR
LAB
WORKER.



SO SEND
ONE OF
YOUR LAB
DORKS
OR SOMETHING.

EVERY-
ONE'S
BUSY.



SO THEY
ASKED IF
I COULD
SEND
SOMEONE
ELSE
IN MY
PLACE.

BUT I'M
IN NO
CONDITION
TO TEACH.

WELL,
I WAS
OFFERED
THE
CLASS.

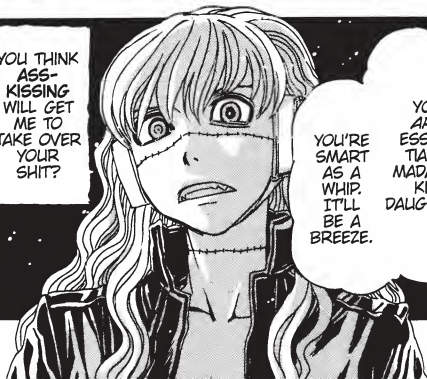


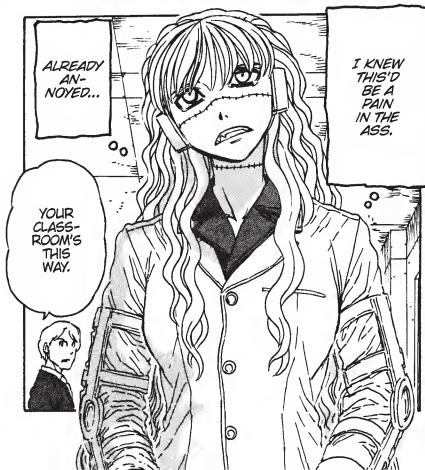
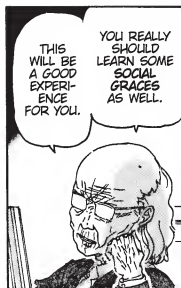
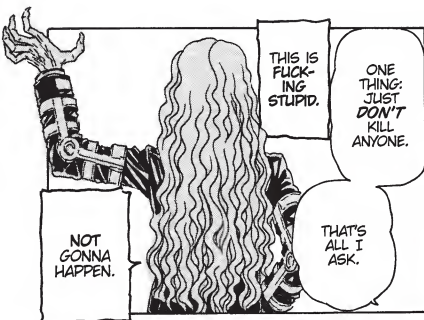
YOU THINK
ASS-
KISSING
WILL GET
ME TO
TAKE OVER
YOUR
SHIT?

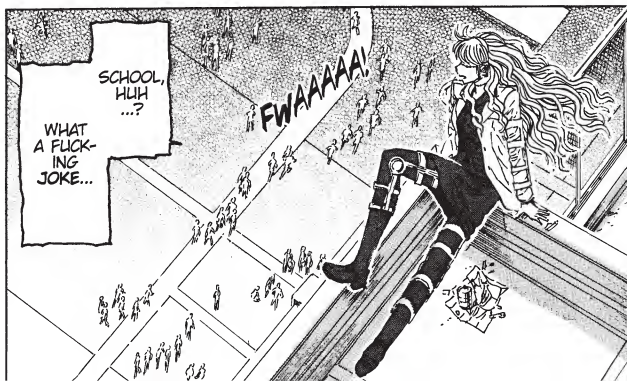
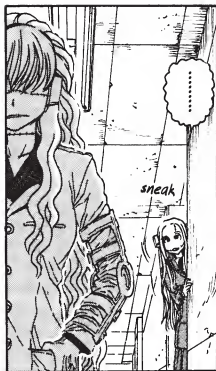
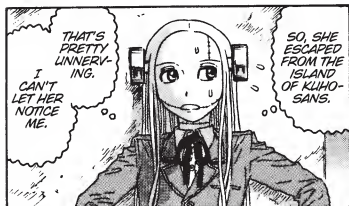
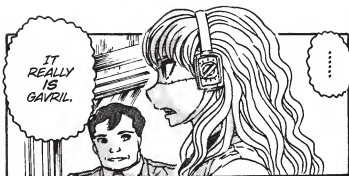
HUIH,
AMATSU-
KAAA?

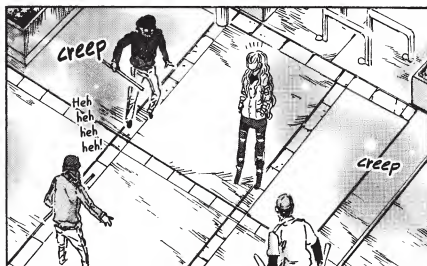
YOU'RE
SMART
AS A
WHIP.
IT'LL
BE A
BREEZE.

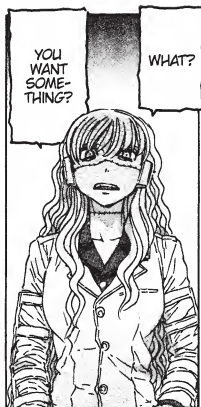
YOU
ARE
ESSEN-
TIALY
MADARA-
KI'S
DAUGHTER.











DAMMIT!
SO
DAMN
HOT!

SHUT
UP!

huff

huff

YOU WANNA
RAPE
SOMEONE,
YOU SERI-
OUSLY GOT
THE WRONG
CHICK.

WHAT'RE
YOU
GUYS
TRYING
TO DO?

...SO.

I DON'T
GIVE
A SHIT
ABOUT
THIS
WHOLE
TEACHER
THING.

JUST
HOLD
YOUR
GOD-
DAMN
HORSES.

IF I
GIVE THE
WORD,
YOUR
HEAD'S
GONNA--

MY
DAD'S A
POLITI-
CIAN,
YOU
KNOW.

YOU
GUYS
ARE THE
SCUM
OF THE
EARTH.
I LIKE
THAT.

GOT NO
CHOICE
THEN,
DO I?
I'LL HEAR
WHAT
YOU GOT
TO SAY.

BUT
THE PRO-
FESSOR
TOLD
ME NO
KILLING.

THIS
IS SO
ANNOYING,
I JUST
WANNA
KILL
THEM.

YOUR
DAD'S A
POLITICIAN?
USE THAT TO
THREATEN
SOME SAD
CHICK AND
MAKE IT CON-
SENSUAL.

FIRST
OF ALL,
IF YOU'RE
GONNA
RAPE A
BITCH...

...YOU
GOTTA
DO YOUR
LEGWORK.
AIM FOR
A PLACE
NO ONE
GOES.

**SHUT
THE
HELL
UP!!**

I MEAN,
STATISTI-
CALLY,
HALF OF
YOU ARE
THE
PRODUCT
OF RAPE.

ALL
GROWN-
UPS DO
IT, YOU
KNOW?



THAT'S
LIKE A
FOR REAL
CRIME,
YOU
KNOW.

WHAT
THE...?

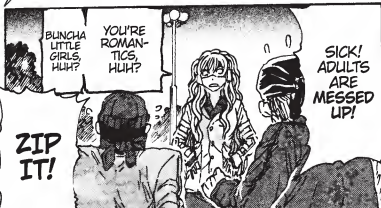


BUNCH
A LITTLE
GIRLS,
HUH?

YOU'RE
ROMAN-
TICS,
HUH?

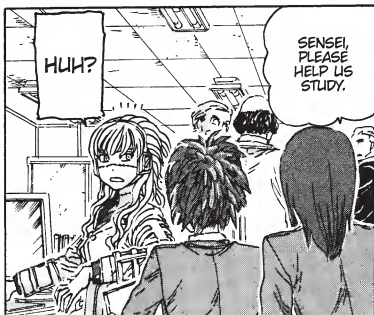
SICK!
ADULTS
ARE
MESS'D
UP!

**ZIP
IT!**



HUH?

SENSEI,
PLEASE
HELP US
STUDY.



I HEARD
GAVRIL-
SENSEI
TALKED
'EM DOWN
SOME-
HOW.

MICHI-
GAMI'S
GANG'S
GOTTEN
REALLY
QUIET.

PRETTY
AMAZ-
ING,
HUH?



YOUR PARENTS BOUGHT YOUR GRADES WITH COLD HARD CASH. LONG AS YOU GOT MONEY, YOU DON'T NEED TO STUDY.

WHAT DO YOU THINK THIS SCHOOL'S FOR, ANYWAY? I MEAN, FOR SUCH A SWANKY PLACE, IT'S FULL OF IDIOTS.

YOUR FOLKS'RE RICH, YEAH?

UHM, WE WANT TO GO TO A GOOD SCHOOL... AND YOU KNOW, LIKE, A JOB...

HUH?

WHY WOULD YOU WANNA DO THAT?

AS FOR UNIVERSITY, YOU'LL GET IN THROUGH THE BACK DOOR, AND WITH YOUR CONNECTIONS, YOU'LL LAND A NICE, CUSHY BOARD OF DIRECTORS GIG. SO, RELAX.

YOU'RE FULL OF IT, AREN'T YA? I CAN TELL 'CAUSE YOU REEK OF ADRENALINE.

Ha ha ha!

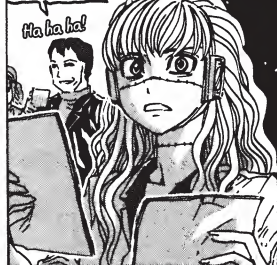
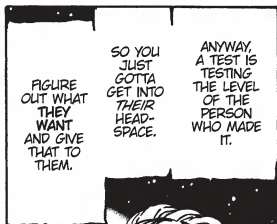
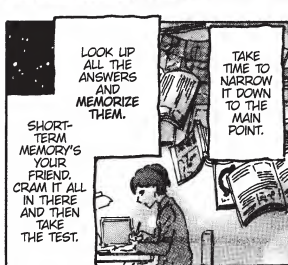
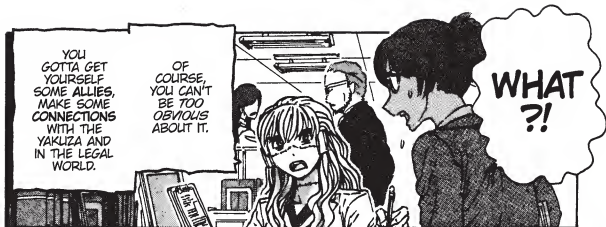
WHAT? MY DADDY WOULDN'T ...

THEN, ONCE YOU'RE MARRIED, KNOCK THE OLD COOT OFF AND TAKE HIS ESTATE.

WHAT YOU GOTTA DO IS SPREAD YOUR LEGS FOR SOME MIDDLE-AGED RICH DUDE, AND GET KNOCKED UP.

YEAH, YOU LOOK PRETTY BROKE-ASS.

MY FAMILY'S NOT THAT RICH!



YOU THINK YOU CAN KILL THEM? YOU'RE TOO MUCH OF A COWARD. YOU'D END UP GETTING CAUGHT.

THINK OF A WAY TO GET RE-VENGE.

I'LL KILL THEM, AND THEN I--

DO I HUH? LOOK LIKE I GIVE A CRAP?

KREE
SENSEI, I'M BEING BULLIED.

USE THAT TO GET AHEAD IN THE WORLD. IF YOU DO, THOSE GUYS'LL TASTE THE BITTERNESS OF LOSING TO YOU THEIR WHOLE LIVES.

YOU'RE THE BRAINY TYPE, YEAH?

SOMETHING THAT'S ACTUALLY POSSIBLE, DIPSHIT.

RE-VENGE? SO, I SHOULD KILL--

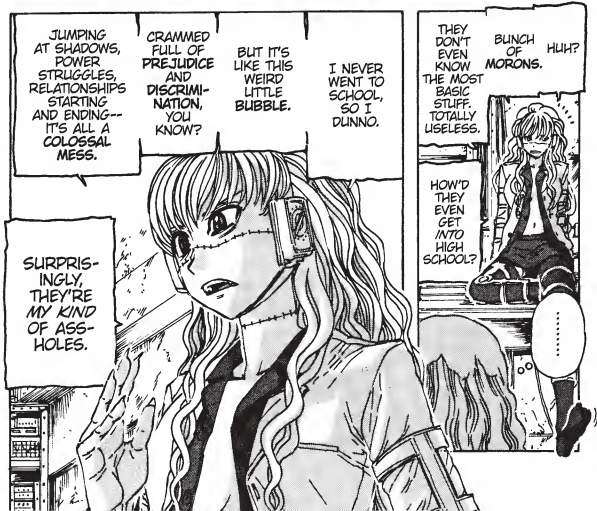
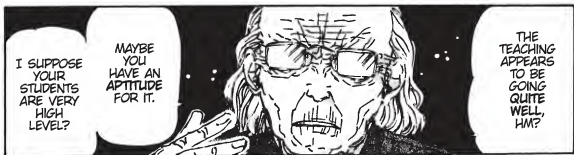
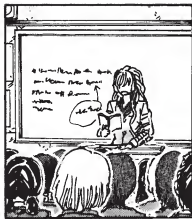
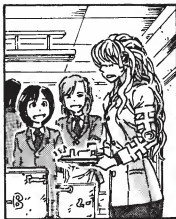
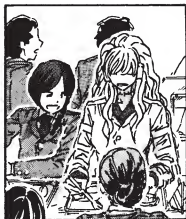
YOU CAN USE IT TO SHAKE 'EM DOWN IF THEY GET RICH.

VIDEO, PICTURES, AUDIO, YOU CAN USE IT ALL LATER.

AT ANY RATE, RIGHT NOW, GET PROOF YOU'RE BEING BULLIED.

RUSH IN AND HIT THE BASTARDS HARD, AND RISK GETTING CAUGHT.
OR TREAT 'EM TO A LIFETIME OF ENVY AND REGRET.

SEEMS TO ME LIKE THE SECOND CHOICE IS A LOT SWEETER.



THE GIRLS
ON THE RAG
STINK TO HIGH
HEAVEN.
AND THEN,
THERE'S
ALL THE
PHEROMONES
MUSKING
UP THE
GODDAMN AIR.
IT'S HELL.

DON'T
KNOW
HOW
THEIR
NOSES
STILL
WORK.

HALF
THE GUYS
JERK OFF
BEFORE
CLASS AND
REEK OF CLIM.

YOU'VE
ZEROED
IN ON
SOMETHING
INTER-
ESTING.

I
SEE...

HE
THINKS
NO
ONE
NOTIC-
ES.

THERE'S A
KID WHO
PLAYS
WITH
HIMSELF
IN THE
MIDDLE OF
CLASS.

IT'S
MORE
THAN
THAT,
OKAY?

BUT
EVERY-
ONE
DOES.

WELL,
YOU ARE
A LOT
MORE
SENSITIVE
IN THAT
REGARD.

I'M
GONNA
PUKE.

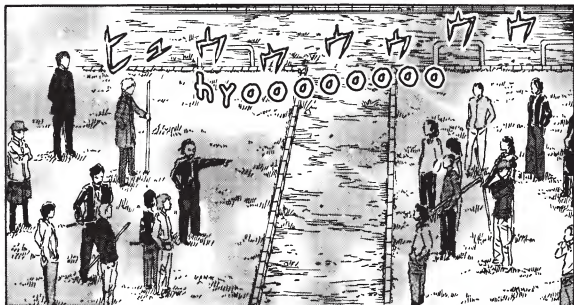
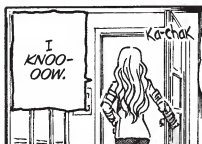
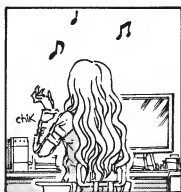
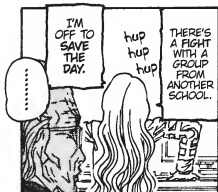
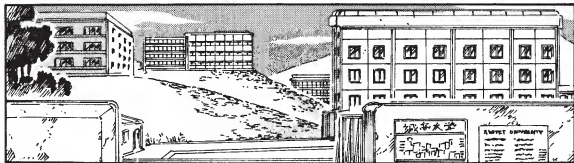
HAVE
FUN
TEACH-
ING.

YOU'RE
RESPON-
SIBLE
FOR THEM
UNTIL
THEN.

THE
NEXT
TRANSFER
IS SIX
MONTHS
FROM
NOW.

HOW
LONG DO
I HAVE
TO STAY
AT THAT
HELL-
HOLE?
HON-
ESTLY...

Glug...



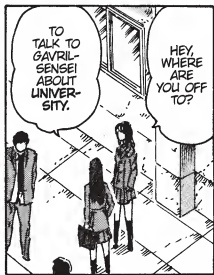
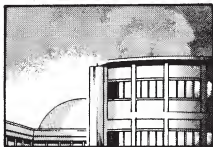


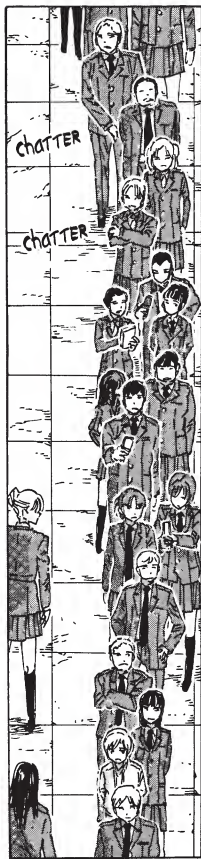
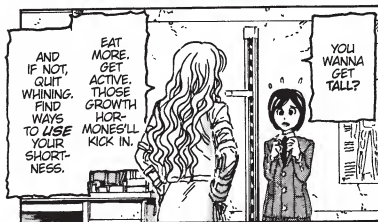
**DO
SOME-
THING!
STOP
HER!!**

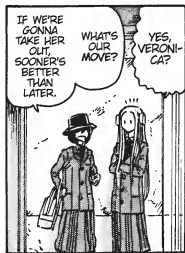
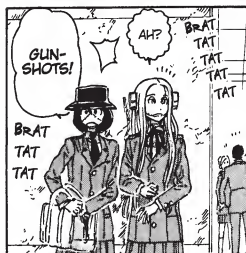
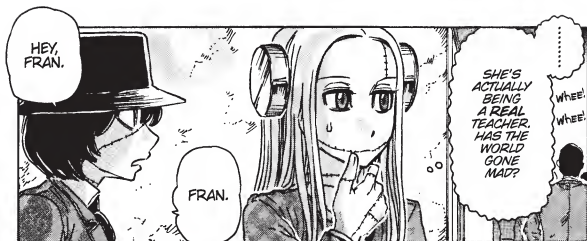
**NOTH-
ING
WORKS!**

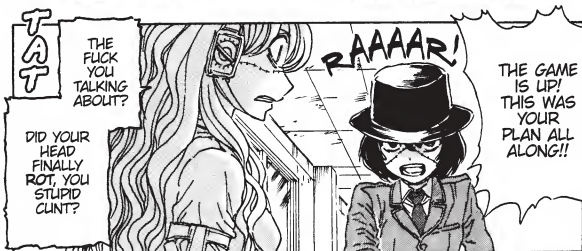
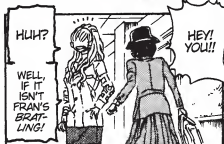
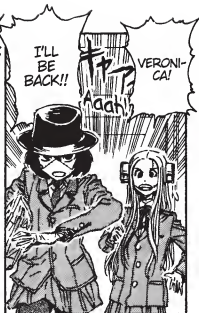
**WHAT
THE HELL
IS WITH
THIS
WOMAN?!**

**SENSEI,
I'M ON
YOUR
SIDE....!**





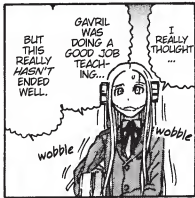
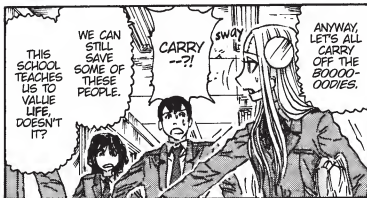


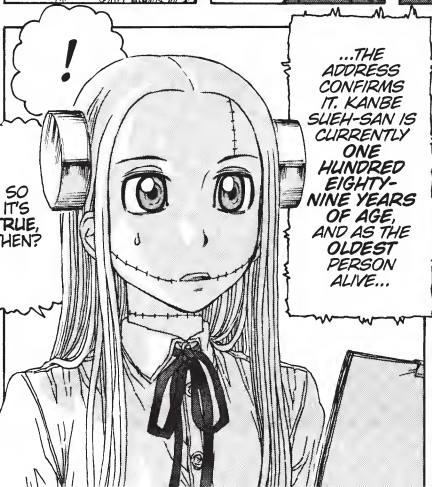
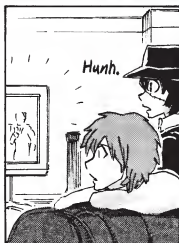
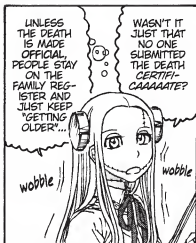




THEN
I'VE
GOT
THE
ADVANTAGE!!





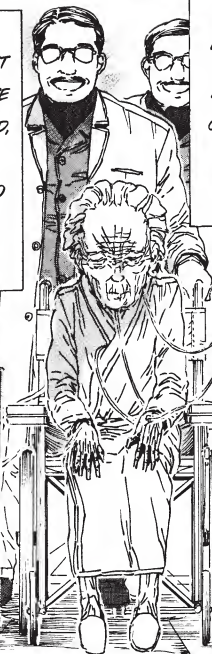




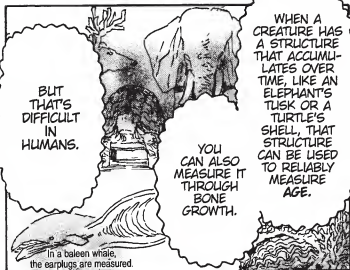
HER EYESIGHT
AND
HEARING HAVE
SERIOUSLY
DETERIORATED,
AND SHE
LACKS THE
PHYSICAL
STRENGTH TO
STAND OR
SUPPORT
HERSELF.

KANBE SUEH.
SHE
CURRENTLY
RESIDES IN AN
INTENSIVE
CARE SENIORS'
HOME IN
A CERTAIN
PREFECTURE.

HOWEVER,
ASIDE
FROM THIS,
SHE IS
PERFECTLY
HEALTHY.



Ep.50 / LONGEVITY

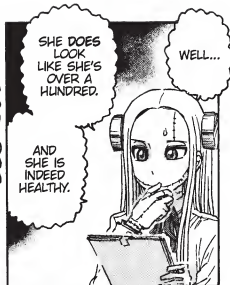


BUT
THAT'S
DIFFICULT
IN
HUMANS.

YOU
CAN ALSO
MEASURE IT
THROUGH
BONE
GROWTH.

WHEN A
CREATURE HAS
A STRUCTURE
THAT ACCUMU-
LATES OVER
TIME, LIKE AN
ELEPHANT'S
TUSK OR A
TURTLE'S
SHELL, THAT
STRUCTURE
CAN BE USED
TO RELIABLY
MEASURE
AGE.

In a baleen whale,
the earplugs are measured.



SHE DOES
LOOK
LIKE SHE'S
OVER A
HUNDRED.

WELL....

AND
SHE IS
INDEED
HEALTHY.

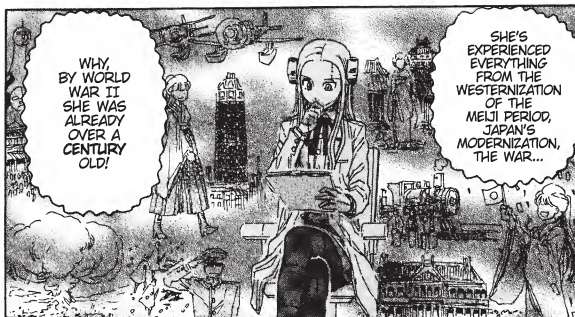


SHE'S
MERELY
EXIST-
ING.

EVERY-
THING
AROUND
HER IS
TAKEN
CARE OF
BY OTHER
PEOPLE.

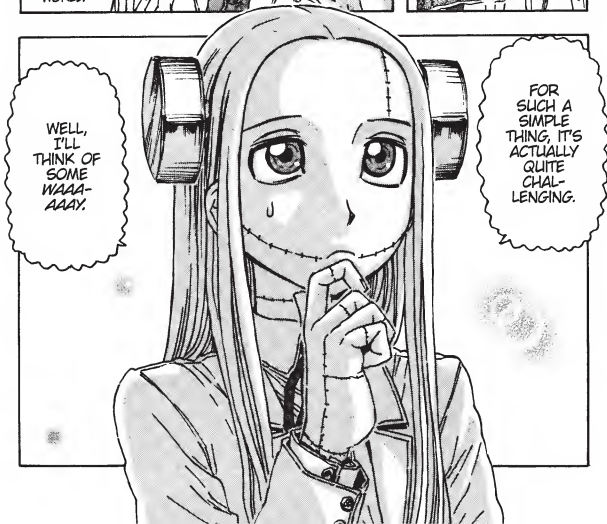
THIS
WOMAN
...

SHE
CAN'T SEE,
SHE CAN'T
HEAR, SHE
DOESN'T
COMMUNI-
CATE.



WHY,
BY WORLD
WAR II
SHE WAS
ALREADY
OVER A
CENTURY
OLD!

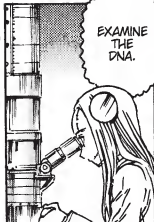
SHE'S
EXPERIENCED
EVERYTHING
FROM THE
WESTERNIZATION
OF THE
MEIJI PERIOD,
JAPAN'S
MODERNIZATION,
THE WAR...



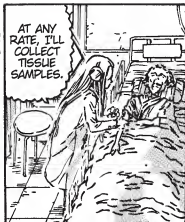


ELECTROPHORESIS...

AMPLIFY WITH PCR.



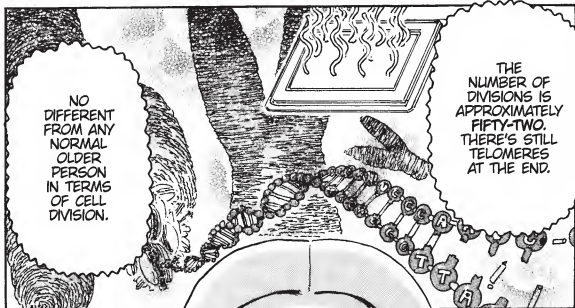
EXAMINE THE DNA.



AT ANY RATE, I'LL COLLECT TISSUE SAMPLES.



OH HO?



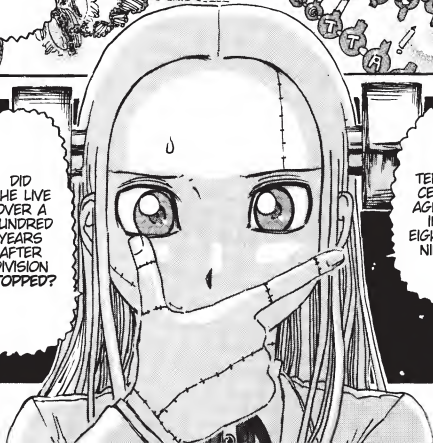
NO DIFFERENT FROM ANY NORMAL OLDER PERSON IN TERMS OF CELL DIVISION.

THE NUMBER OF DIVISIONS IS APPROXIMATELY FIFTY-TWO. THERE'S STILL TELOMERES AT THE END.

DID SHE LIVE OVER A HUNDRED YEARS AFTER DIVISION STOPPED?

IT WOULD BE LOGICAL TO ASSUME SHE'S JUST LYING, AND YET...

IN TERMS OF CELLULAR AGE, SHE'S IN HER EIGHTIES OR NINETIES.

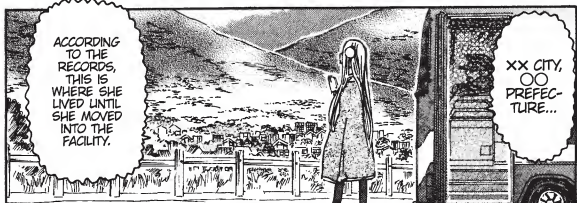
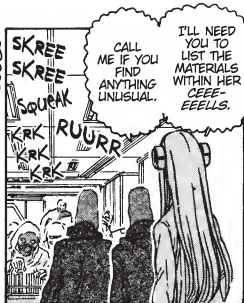




I'LL INVESTIGATE FROM ANOTHER ANGLE.

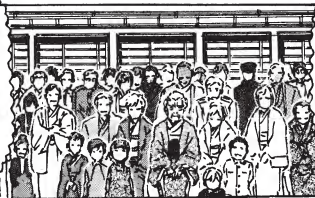


THEY'VE GOT THE ANALYSIS COVERED.



BUT
THE FAMILY
LINE'S
DIED OUT,
LEAVING
ONLY
THE OLD
WOMAN.

SHE WAS
FROM A
DISTINGUISHED
FAMILY
THAT WAS
FAMOUS
AROUND
HERE.



Kenzaki City Hall

totter

stagger

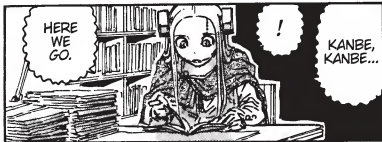
THERE
SHOULD
BE SOME
RECORDS
OF THEM
HERE...

IF SHE
WAS
FROM
SUCH A
DISTIN-
GUISHED
FAMILY...

HERE
WE
GO.

!

KANBE,
KANBE...



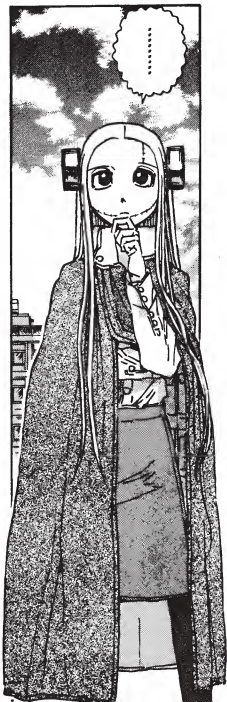
GAH,
I CAN'T
READ
THIS
WRITING!

FROM
A LINE
OF
DAIMYOS
...

KANBE
ISENO-
KAMI... A
DAIMYO?

chik

chik



IS
THIS
IT?!

THE THIRD
DAUGHTER
OF THE
THIRTEENTH
FEUDAL
LORD,
SUEHIME...

IT
ALL
LINES
UP?!

WHAT?
REALLY
?!

THE
YEAR
1818.

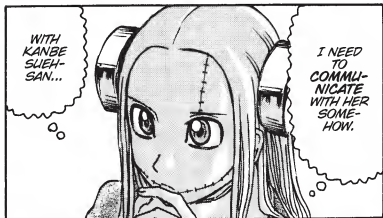
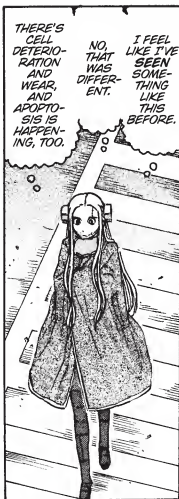
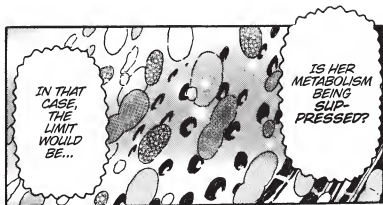
THE FIRST
YEAR OF
THE BUNSEI
ERA. LET'S
SEEE.
A SIMPLE
CALCULA-
TION AND...

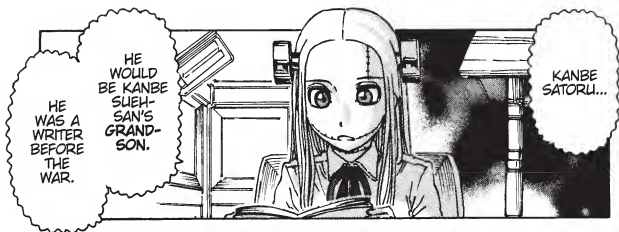
WHY
DOESN'T
SHE
DIE?!

IS
THAT
EVEN
POSSI-
BLE?

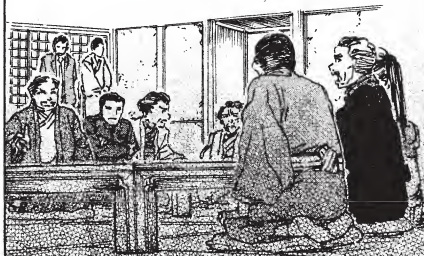
HAS
REALLY
BEEN
ALIVE FOR
NEARLY
TWO
CENTU-
RIES?

THAT
OLD
WOMAN
...





It is almost as though our house is cursed. By the time I was born, the matriarch was already running the family, ruling over us with an iron fist like a monster. She had been given life before the Westernization, and despite the fact that she had in excess of a hundred years, her eyes glittered suspiciously, and her mouth spat out abuse as though she delighted in making us unhappy.



"Shishosetsu, or the 'I novel,' was a style of Japanese literature popular in the early 20th century that featured a self-revealing narrator who was usually the main character.

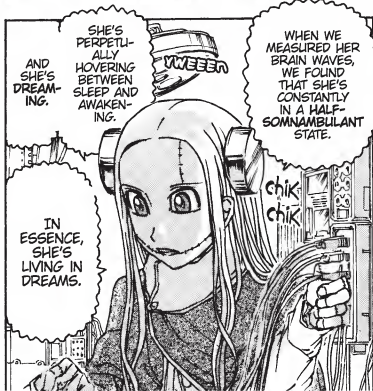
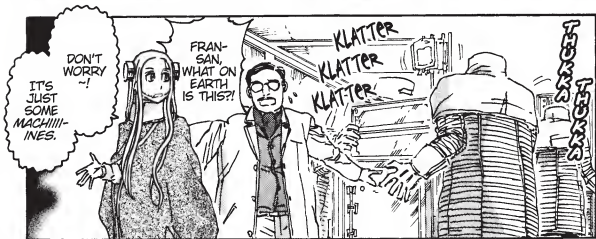
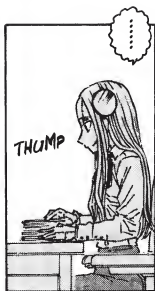
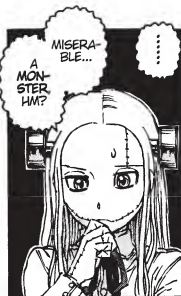
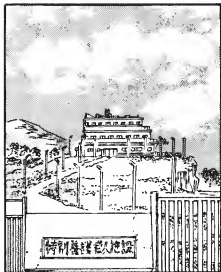
DID
YOUR
FAMILY
HATE
YOU?

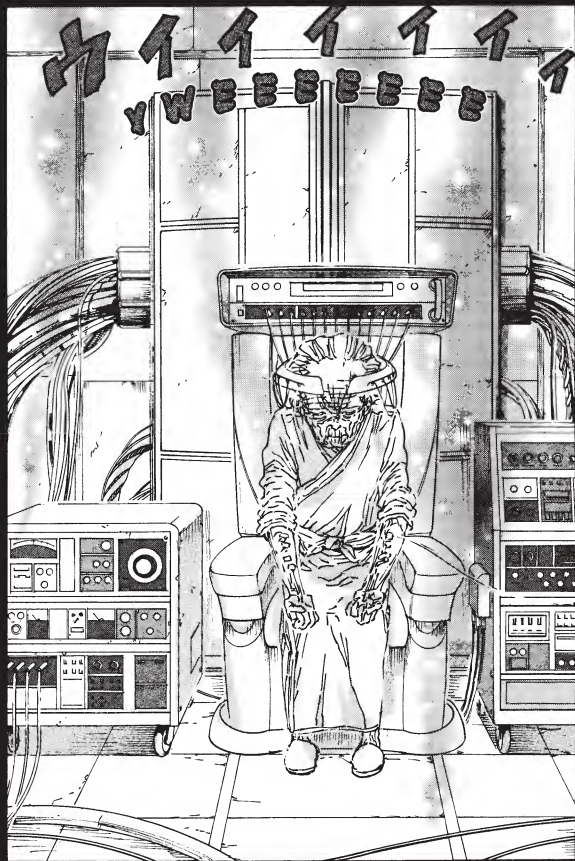
SUEH-
SAN...

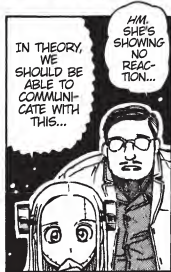
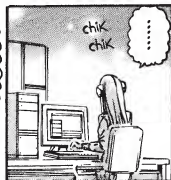
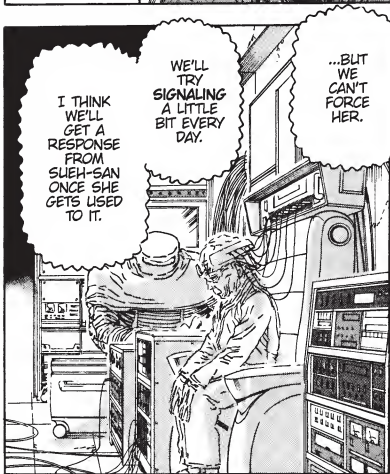
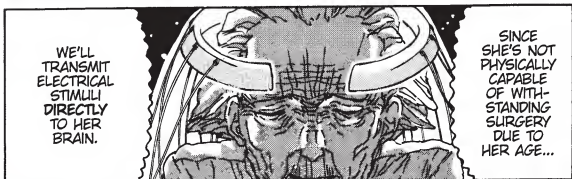
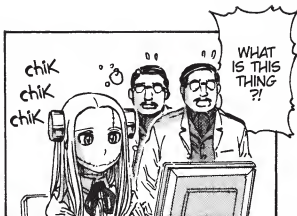
She appeared to despise everything in this world. Then, too, her thinking was that of the patriarchal system. The fall of our family was largely due to all the decisions she made. She pulled apart the romance of my older brother, destroyed his engagement with a girl from a good family, and pushed him into a marriage with a lowly middle-aged domestic, completely overturning his heart. I have heard that my own mother was driven out of the house and forced into servitude somewhere. And yet, we remain unable to oppose her.

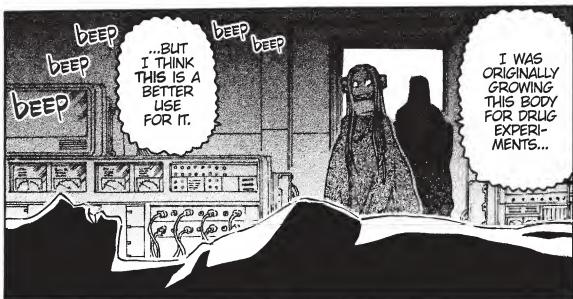
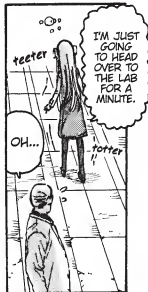
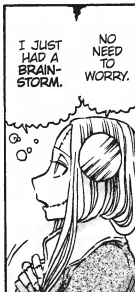
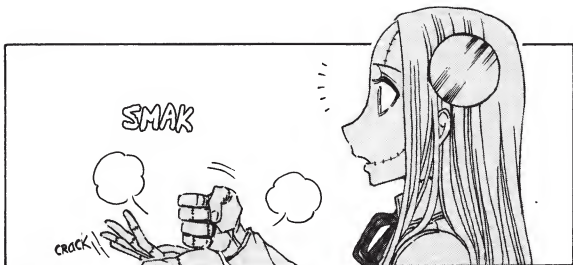
I fear her,
unsure if she is
truly human. I
fear that someday
I will also be
given the destiny
of dying for her...

The more
miserable those
around her grow,
the sprightlier she
seems to become.











IT'S
EXTREMELY
SIMILAR
TO TREHA-
LOSE.

OF
WHAT?

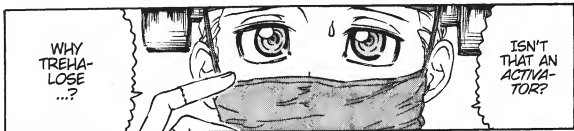
IT
APPEARS
TO BE A
CHEMICAL
SYNTHESIS
OF A
CERTAIN
MATERI-
AL...

AN UNKNOWN
PROTEIN WAS
DISCOVERED
IN THE CELLS
UNDER
EXAMINATION.

hyoo
hah

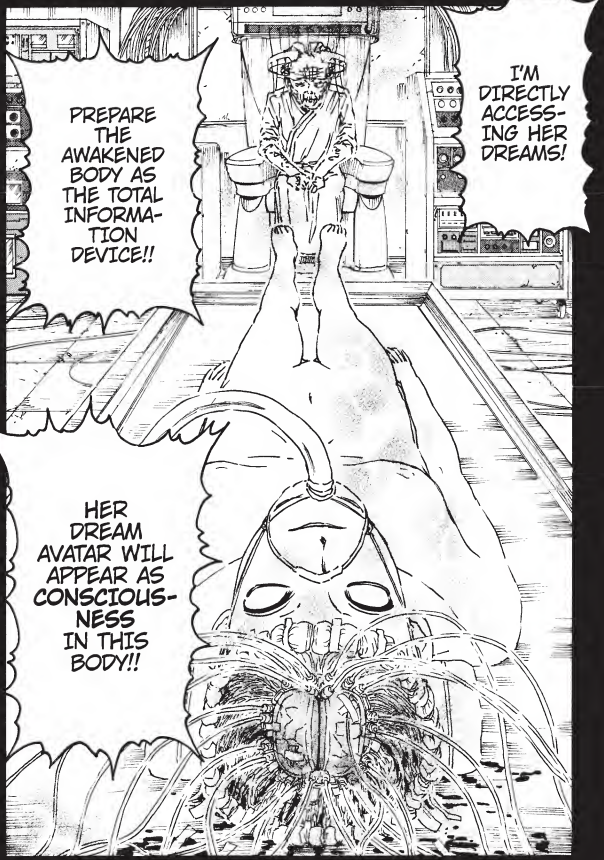
YES?

MISS
FRAN...



**BEGIN
THE
OPERA-
TION!!**

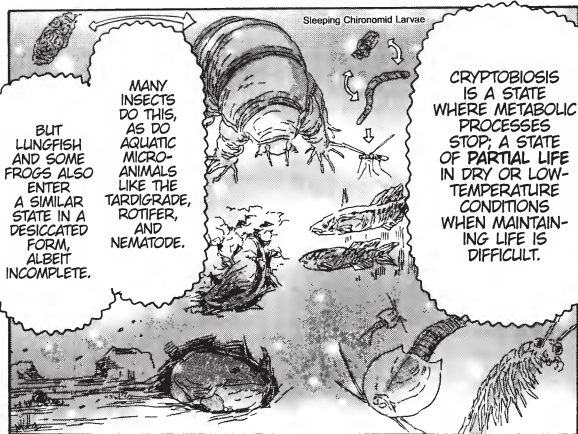
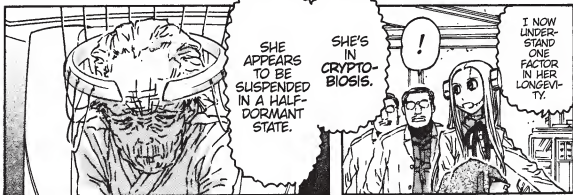
**WE'LL
PROCEED
WITH THE
WORK
HERE!!**



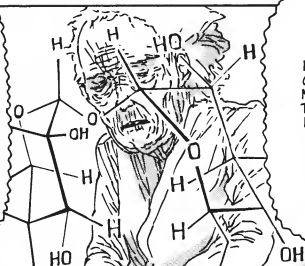
PREPARE
THE
AWAKENED
BODY AS
THE TOTAL
INFORMA-
TION
DEVICE!!

I'M
DIRECTLY
ACCESS-
ING HER
DREAMS!

HER
DREAM
AVATAR WILL
APPEAR AS
CONSCIOUS-
NESS
IN THIS
BODY!!



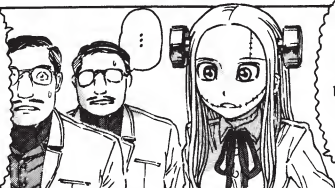
TREHALOSE
IS MADE OF TWO
SUGARS AND
IS EXCELLENT
AT WATER
RETENTION.
SO, BY TAKING
THIS IN INSTEAD
OF WATER,
THE CELLS ARE
FIXED, AND THIS,
I BELIEVE,
IS SUSPENDING
METABOLISM.



HER BODY
CONVERTS
NUTRIENTS
TO TREHA-
LOSE AND
STORES
IT IN THE
CELLS.

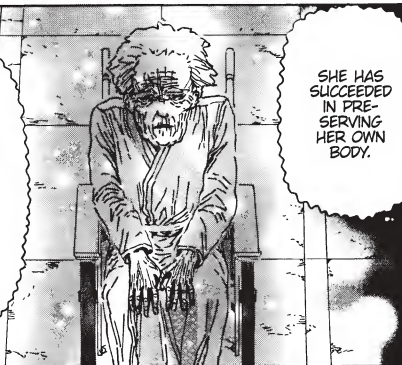
IT
TASTES
SWEET
AND
QUITE
DELI-
CIOUS.

TREHALOSE
IS WIDELY
USED IN
FOOD AND
COSMETICS
AS A PRES-
ERVATIVE.

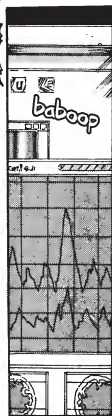
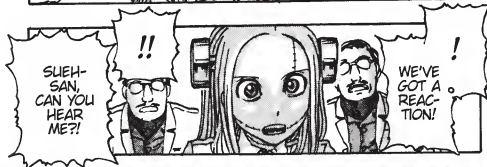
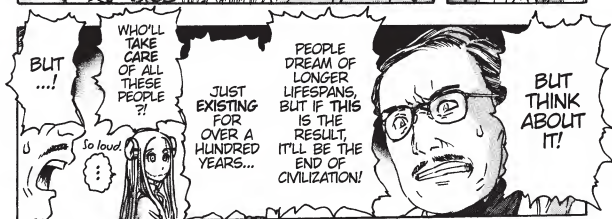
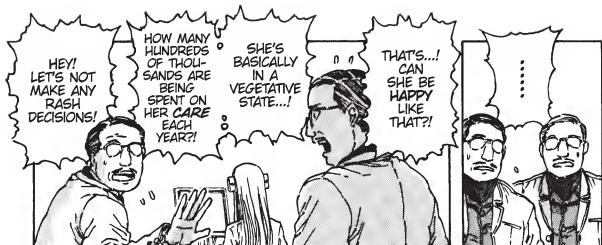


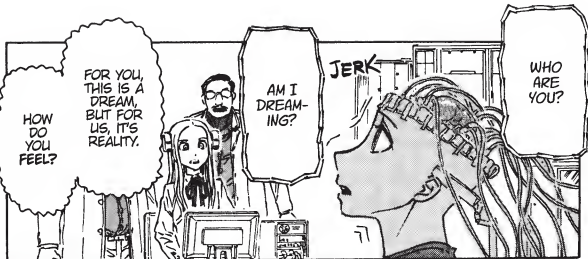
I DON'T
KNOW
HOW SHE
DEVELOPED
THIS
ABILITY.

YOU
COULD
EVEN CALL
HER A
LIVING
HUMAN
PRESER-
VATIVE.



SHE HAS
SUCCEEDED
IN PRES-
ERVING
HER OWN
BODY.





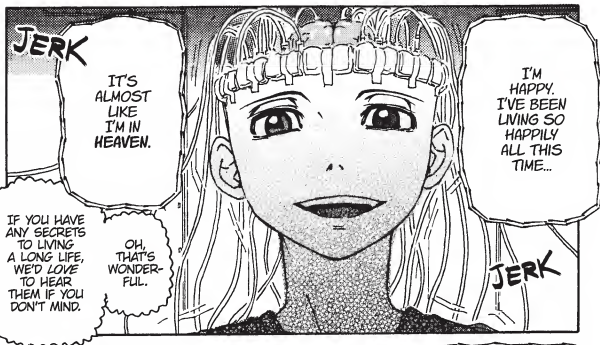
HOW
DO
YOU
FEEL?

FOR YOU,
THIS IS A
DREAM,
BUT FOR
US, IT'S
REALITY.

AM I
DREAM-
ING?

JERK

WHO
ARE
YOU?



JERK

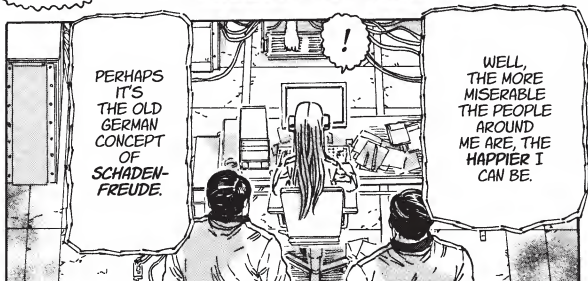
IT'S
ALMOST
LIKE
I'M IN
HEAVEN.

I'M
HAPPY.
I'VE BEEN
LIVING SO
HAPPILY
ALL THIS
TIME...

IF YOU HAVE
ANY SECRETS
TO LIVING
A LONG LIFE,
WE'D LOVE
TO HEAR
THEM IF YOU
DON'T MIND.

OH,
THAT'S WONDER-
FUL.

JERK



PERHAPS
IT'S
THE OLD
GERMAN
CONCEPT
OF
SCHADEN-
FREUDE.

WELL,
THE MORE
MISERABLE
THE PEOPLE
AROUND
ME ARE, THE
HAPPIER I
CAN BE.

!



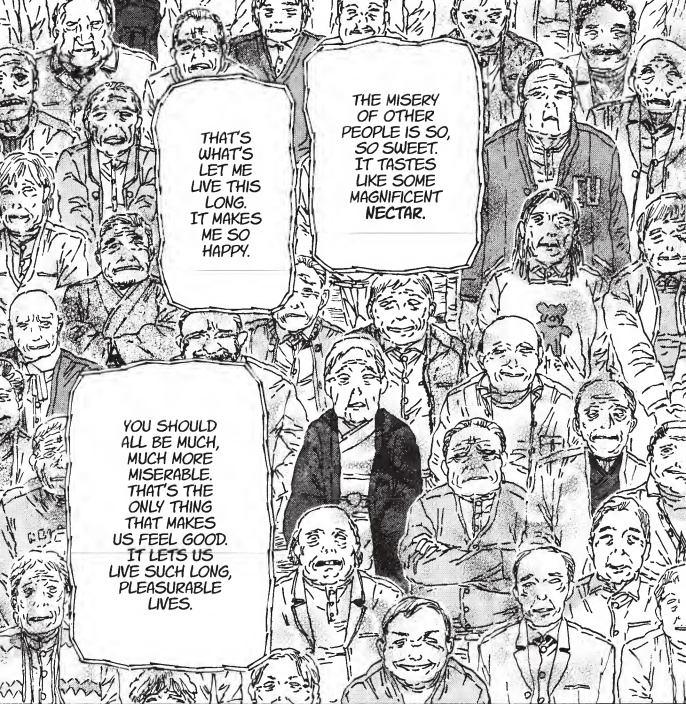
A black and white manga panel. In the foreground, a young woman with long hair and a headband with small lights or sensors is looking forward with a neutral expression. She is wearing a dark, short-sleeved button-down shirt. Her right arm is visible, with a small device attached to her wrist. In the background, a large, close-up, and somewhat distorted face of an older man with a mustache looms over her. The background is filled with a halftone dot pattern. Two speech bubbles are present: one on the right containing two lines of text, and two instances of the word 'JERK' on the left side, one near the woman's head and one further down.

THERE'LL
BE MORE
AND
MORE OF
US FROM
NOW ON.

IT'S
NOT
JUST
ME.

JERK

JERK



THAT'S
WHAT'S
LET ME
LIVE THIS
LONG.
IT MAKES
ME SO
HAPPY.

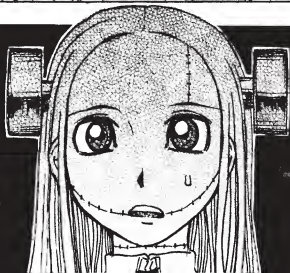
THE MISERY
OF OTHER
PEOPLE IS SO,
SO SWEET.
IT TASTES
LIKE SOME
MAGNIFICENT
NECTAR.

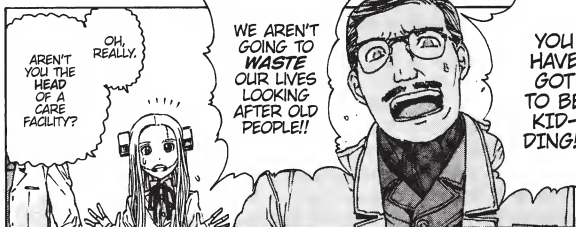
YOU SHOULD
ALL BE MUCH,
MUCH MORE
MISERABLE.
THAT'S THE
ONLY THING
THAT MAKES
US FEEL GOOD.
IT LETS US
LIVE SUCH LONG,
PLEASURABLE
LIVES.

THAT'S
THE
SECRET
OF HER
LONG
LIFE!

YOU STORE
TREHALOSE
WITHIN
YOUR BODY
TO PRE-
SERVE
YOURSELF.

THAT
NECTAR
IS
TREHA-
LOSE.



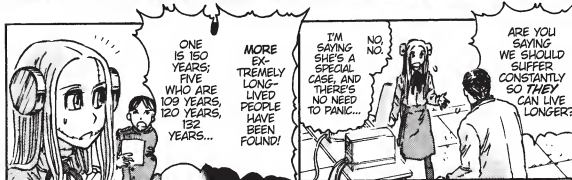


AREN'T YOU THE HEAD OF A CARE FACILITY?

OH, REALLY.

WE AREN'T GOING TO **WASTE** OUR LIVES LOOKING AFTER OLD PEOPLE!!

YOU HAVE GOT TO BE KID-DING!!



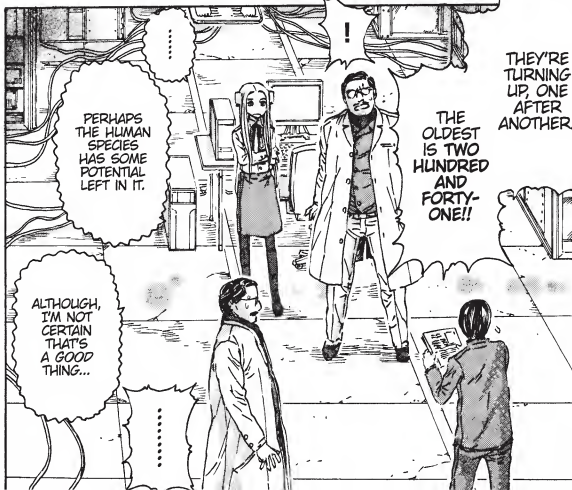
ONE IS 150 YEARS; FIVE WHO ARE 109 YEARS, 120 YEARS, 132 YEARS...

MORE EX-
TREMELY
LONG-LIVED
PEOPLE
HAVE
BEEN
FOUND!

I'M SAYING SHE'S A SPECIAL CASE, AND THERE'S NO NEED TO PANIC...

NO. NO.

ARE YOU SAYING WE SHOULD SUFFER CONSTANTLY SO THEY CAN LIVE LONGER?!

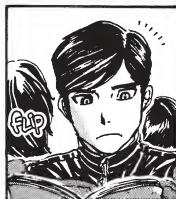


PERHAPS THE HUMAN SPECIES HAS SOME POTENTIAL LEFT IN IT.

ALTHOUGH, I'M NOT CERTAIN THAT'S A GOOD THING...

THE OLDEST IS TWO HUNDRED AND FORTY-ONE!!

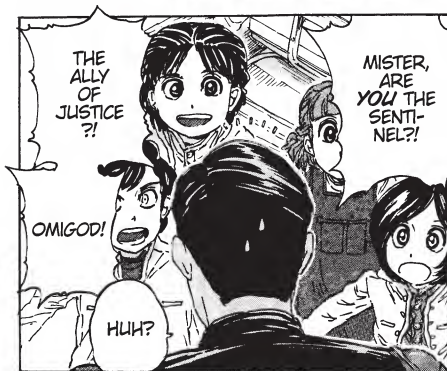
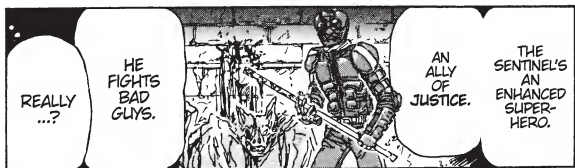
THEY'RE TURNING UP, ONE AFTER ANOTHER!

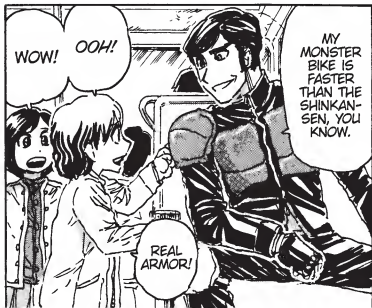
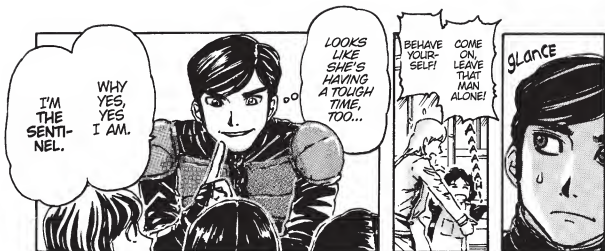


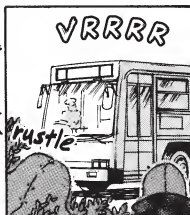
Ep.51 / VENGEANCE²

WELL,
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH ME,
I GUESS.











OR
I'LL
KILL
YOU
ALL!!

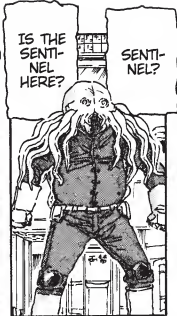
EEEE!

AN-
SWER
ME!!



GAH!
IT'S
LOOKING
THIS
WAY...!

Shh!!



IS THE
SENTI-
NEL
HERE?

SENTI-
NEL?



UH...

UH,
LOOK...

STAGE



STOP
RIGHT
THERE
!!



tremble tremble

SENTI-
NEL,
SAVE
US...!

SENTI-
NEL...

Unnn...

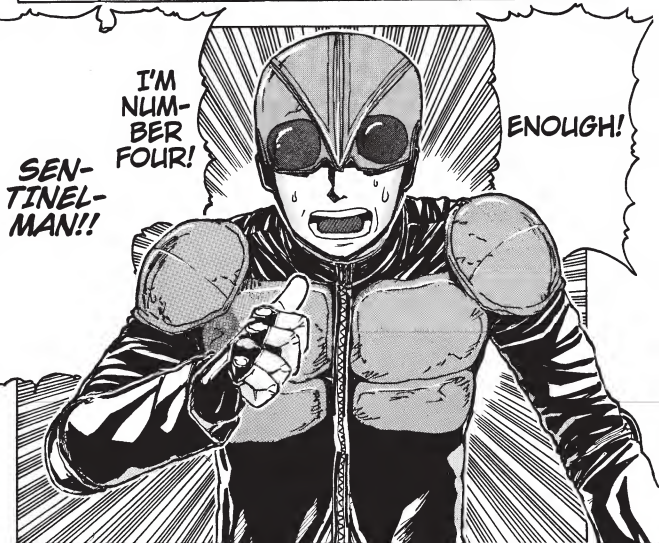


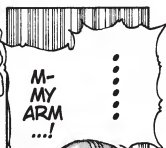
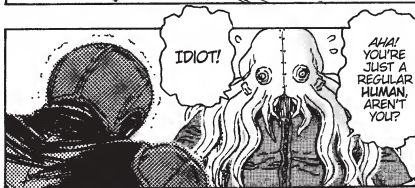
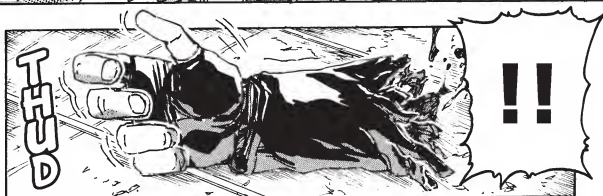
I'LL
START
WITH
THIS
BRAT.

OOO-
OOKAY
...

NOOOOOO!!









COMING
THIS WAY!!



WHAT'S
THAT...

A
PER-
SON?

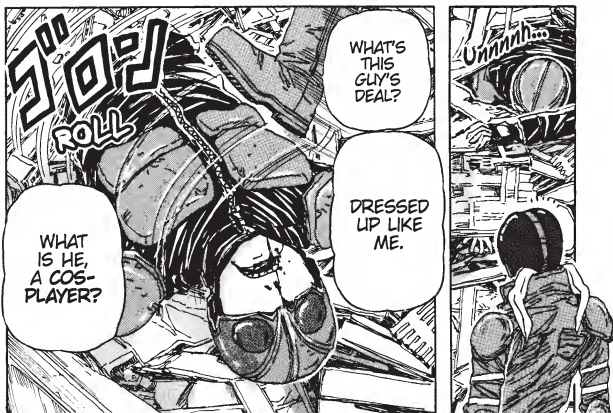
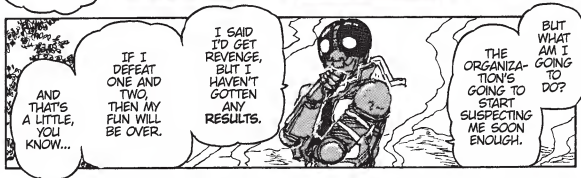
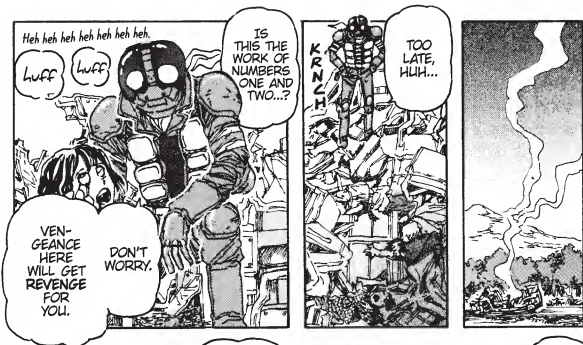


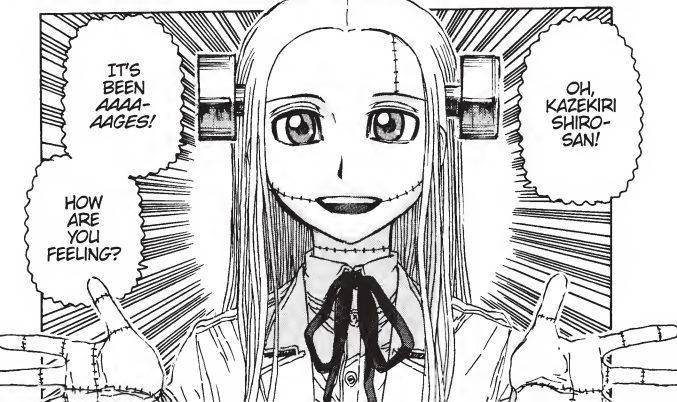
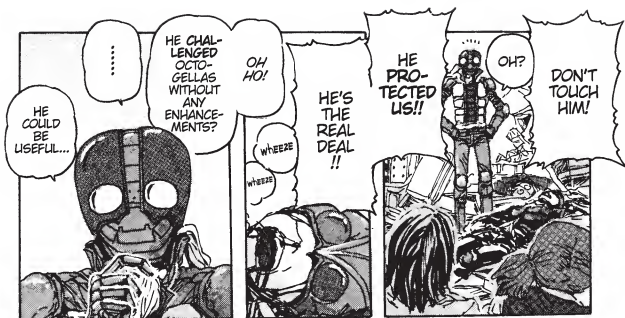
WHA
--?!

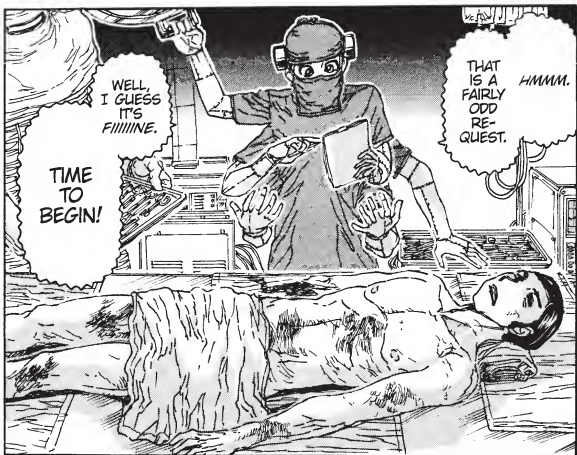
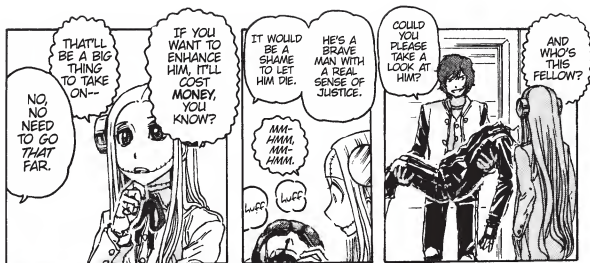
EVERY-
ONE,
GET
BACK!!

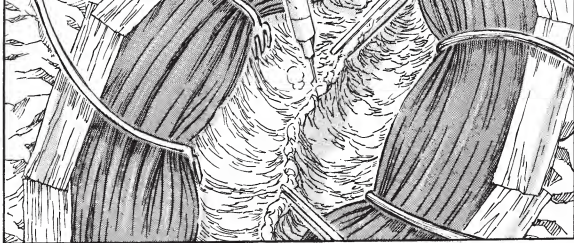
SENTI-
NEL
KICK
!!











DO
YOU
WANT
POWER
?!

WITHOUT
POWER,
YOU
CANNOT
DO
ANYTHING.

NO
MATTER
HOW
VIRTUOUS
YOU
MIGHT
BE...

K-RNCH

K-RNCH

YOU
CANNOT
DEFEAT
THAT
MONSTER
WITH
YOUR
STRENGTH
ALONE.



GIVE
ME
POWER
!!

FINE!
I GET
IT!!

THE
POWER
TO SAVE
EVERY-
ONE!!

DO
YOU
WANT
POWER
?!

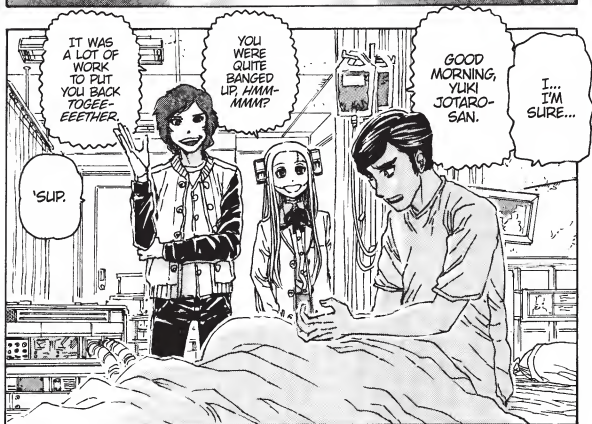
I WILL
ASK
AGAIN.

.....

FROM
NOW
ON,
YOUR
NAME
IS...

UNDER-
STOOD.





IT WAS
A LOT OF
WORK
TO PUT
YOU BACK
TOGETHER.

YOU
WERE
QUITE
BANGED
UP, HMM-
MMM?

GOOD
MORNING,
YUKI
JOTARO-
SAN.

I...
I'M
SURE...

'SUP.



YOU'RE
A YOUNG
MAN WITH
REAL GUTS
AND A
SENSE OF
JUSTICE.

I
HEARD
ABOUT
YOU.

I'M
SENTINEL
V-
THREE.

WHO
ARE
YOU
...?

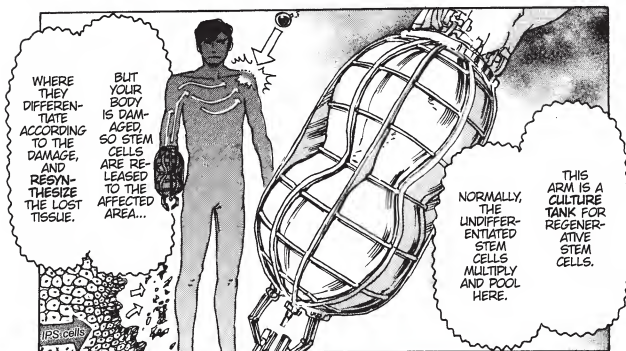
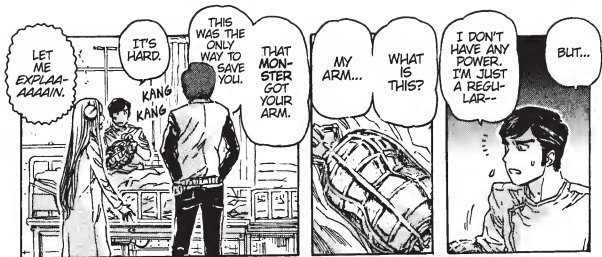


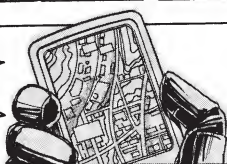
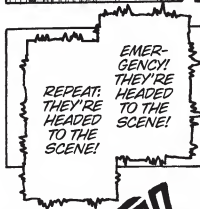
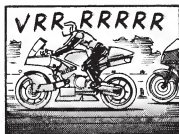
BUT
WILL
YOU
FIGHT
EVIL
WITH
ME?!

THE
ENEMY
IS
POWER-
FUL...

I SEE
A BRIGHT
FUTURE
FOR YOU.
SO I
HAVE TO
ASK!

WHAT
?!







HERE
I
GO!



I
GUESS
I HAVE
NO
CHOICE
...

SORRY.
COULD
YOU
GO ON
AHEAD
FIRST?



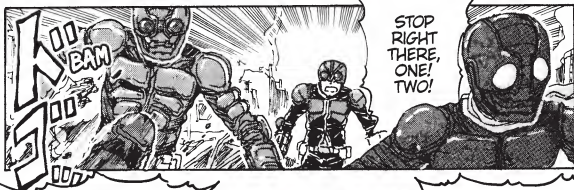
KAZE-
KIRI-
SAN!

.....

KAZE-
KIRI-
SAN,
OVER
THERE!



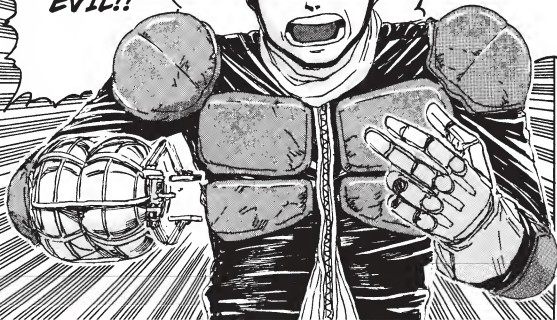
THAT'S
IT!



STOP
RIGHT
THERE,
ONE!
TWO!

I WILL
NOT
TOLERATE
YOUR
EVIL!!

MY
NAME IS
SENTI-
NEL
NUMBER
FOUR!





WE'RE TRYING TO STOP THE END OF THE WORLD.



WHAT DO YOU MEAN, OUR EVIL?



AN-OTHER ONE?



WHAT? NUMBER FOUR?



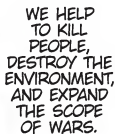
VEN-GEANCE SAID YOU GUYS KILLED HIS FAMILY.



YOU'RE... TRYING TO STOP IT?



WILL YOU HELP US IN OUR EFFORTS TO SAVE THE WORLD?



WE HELP TO KILL PEOPLE, DESTROY THE ENVIRONMENT, AND EXPAND THE SCOPE OF WARS.



WE... TO SAVE THE WORLD...

YOU

...

WHO'RE
YOU
CALLING
DANGER-
OUS?!

DASH
OOO

THAT
GLY'S
DANGER-
OUS!

STEP
AWAY
FROM
VEN-
GEANCE!

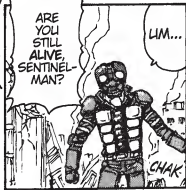
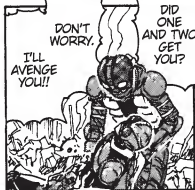
NO
CHOICE
THEN
....!

**SENTI-
NEL
LIGHT-
NING
ATTACK!!**

KRAR

**DIE
!!**





JUST LIKE I PLANNED.

EVERY-THING'S GOING ACCORDING TO PLAN.

THIS IS GOOD.

Heh heh heh heh heh heh.



THANKS, FRAN-SAN.

writhe writhe

writhe writhe



THAT'S
WHY I
SAVED
YOU!
THAT'S
WHY
I EN-
HANCED
YOU!

SET MY
VENGE-
FUL
HEART
AFLAME!

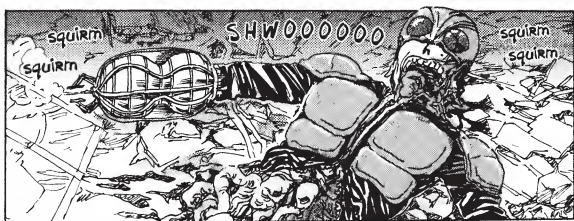
YOU
WILL BE
BEATEN,
KICKED,
MANGLED,
SENTINEL-
MAN!!

TO
FULFILL
MY
DESIRE
FOR
VEN-
GEANCE
...

VEN-
GEANCE
!!

HAHA

YOU
ARE A
TRUE
SENTI-
NEL
NOW!!



HELP'LL
BE
HERE
SOON.
JUST
HANG
ON
UNTIL
THEN.

bleep
shak
shak



IT
HURTS
...
SO...
MUCH
...

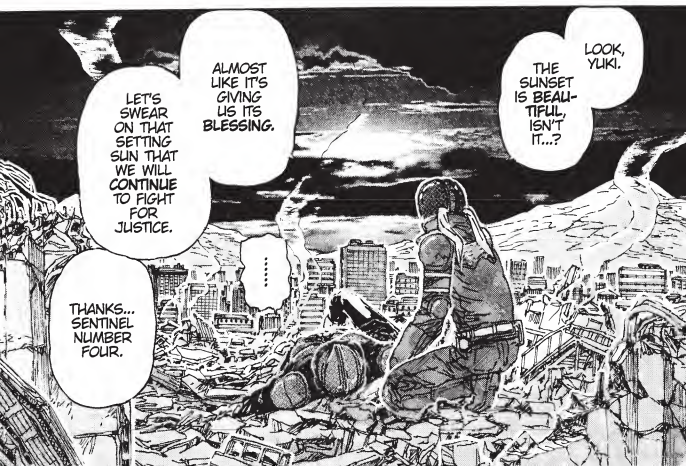
THIS IS
ALSO
FOR THE
SAKE
OF THE
WORLD.



SEN-
TINEL-
MAN?

YOU
OKAY...

AH...
NGAH
...



LET'S
SWEAR
ON THAT
SETTING
SUN THAT
WE WILL
CONTINUE
TO FIGHT
FOR
JUSTICE.

ALMOST
LIKE IT'S
GIVING
US ITS
BLESSING.

THANKS...
SENTINEL
NUMBER
FOUR.

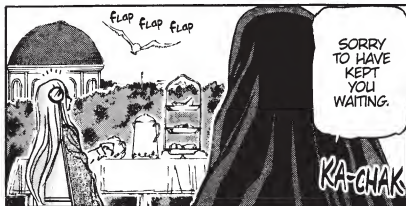
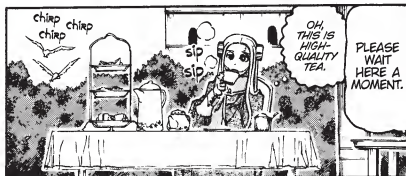
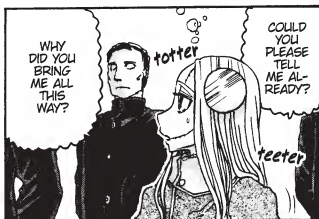
THE
SUNSET
IS BEAU-
TIFUL,
ISN'T
IT...?

LOOK,
YUKI.

ITALY.



✂ ✂ ✂ ✂ ✂
VRRRRRR



IT'S BEEN A WHILE, DR. FRAN.

SHALE-SAN.

HE IS... POSSESSED BY A DEMON.

JOACHIM BRYCE, CARDINAL, AND ONE OF THE PAPAL CANDIDATES.

AND WHO'S THIS?

Hrah

Hrah

YES.

NOW, SHALE-SAN, I'M SURE YOU WERE...

I AM ONE OF THE CERTIFIED OFFICIAL EXORCISTS.

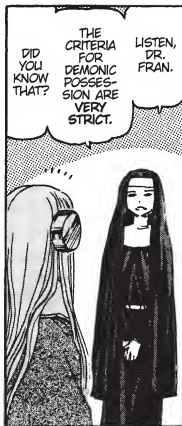
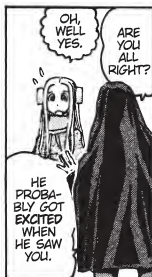
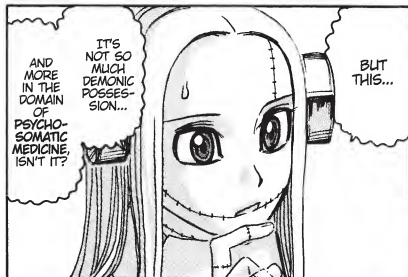
Ooh!

IT STILL REFUSES TO LEAVE THE CARDINAL!!

EVEN AFTER SEVERAL OF US TRIED TO DRIVE OUT THE DEMON...

BUT WE HAVEN'T BEEN ABLE TO HEAL HIM.

Ep.52 / EXORCIST



AND
MOVE
IN WAYS
THAT ARE
IMPOSSIBLE
FOR
HUMAN
BEINGS.

SPEAK A
LANGUAGE
THE HOST
DOES NOT
SPEAK.



THE
DEMON
MUST
SAY
THINGS
THE HOST
WOULDN'T
KNOW.

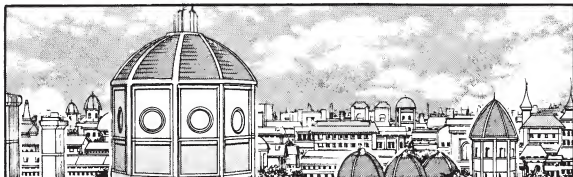
THERE
ARE
THREE
MAIN
REQUIRE-
MENTS
FOR
POSSES-
SION.

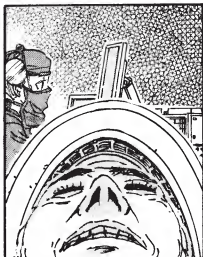
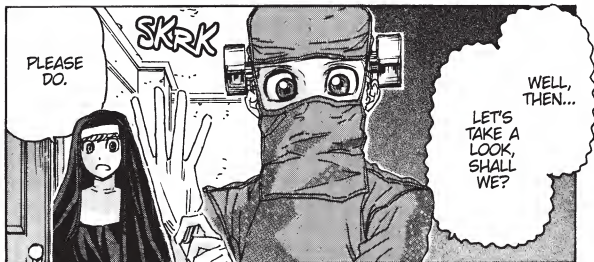
HE ALSO
SPEAKS
IN AN
UNKNOWN
LANGUAGE.

HAS
MOVED
STRANGELY
IN THE
MIDDLE
OF THE
NIGHT.

THE
CARDI-
NAL...

BECAUSE
OF THIS,
HE IS
RECOGNIZED
AS BEING
POSSESSED.





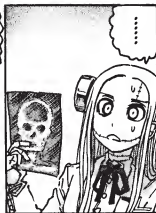
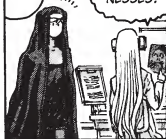
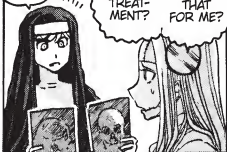
OF
COURSE
...

WHAT
KIND OF
ILLNESS,
WHAT
SORT OF
TREAT-
MENT?

COULD
YOU
CHECK
INTO
THAT
FOR ME?

WELL, HM?
HE IS
OLD.

DID THE
CARDINAL
SUFFER
FROM
ANY ILL-
NESSES?



WHAT
IS
THAT
?!

!!

IT'S
A CG
REPRO-
DUCTION
OF HIS
HEAD.

HE
CLEARLY
HAS...A
FETUS.

BUT IN
PLACE
OF A
BRAIN...



LIKE
IT'S
HOLDING
ONTO
THE
BRAIN
STEM.

BUT THE
CEREBRAL
CORTEX
HAS TAKEN
ON THE
SHAPE OF
A FETUS.

THE
INTER-
BRAIN
(PRIMEVAL
BRAIN)
REMAINS.

WE
CAN
SAVE
THE
CARDI-
NAL!

YOU
MUST
CUT IT
OUT!

SUCH
A FOOL-
HARDY
--!

THIS
HAS
TO BE
DEMONIC
POSSES-
SION!

WE
HAVE
SUCH
CLEAR
AND
OBVIOUS
PROOF!!

IT'S
A
DEMON.

DEMON...

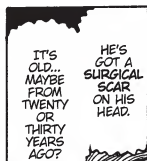
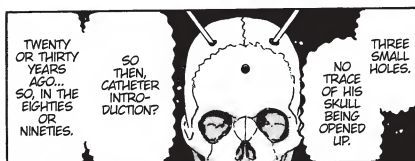
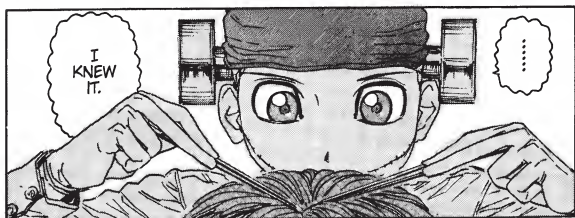
AFTER ALL,
THIS IS THE
FIRST TIME
I'VE EVER
SEEEEN
SOMETHING
LIKE THIS.

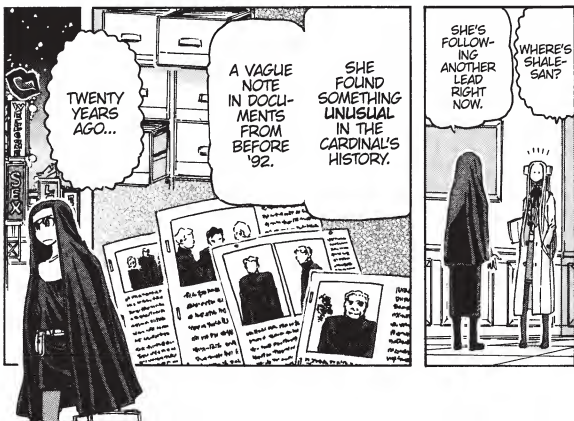
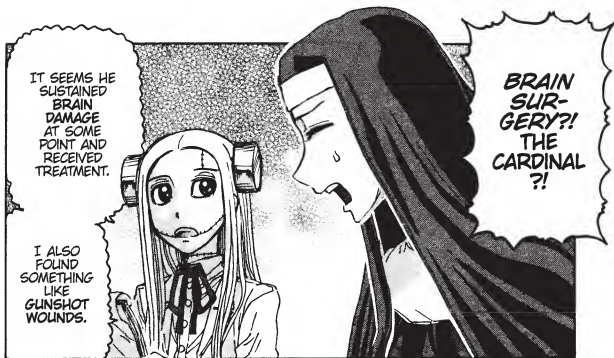
AT ANY
RATE,
FURTHER
EXAMINA-
TION...

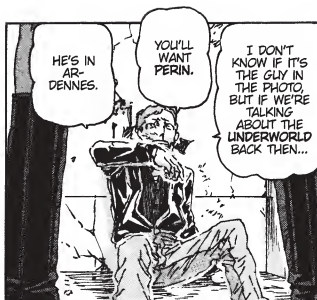
WHEN
YOU'RE
CONFRONT-
ED WITH
THE REAL
THING, IT'S
QUITE DIFFER-
ENT...

Laaa
laaa~!

A
MIRACLE
OF GOD
OR THE
WORK OF
THE
DEVIL...







THEY CAN DIFFERENTIATE INTO MUSCLE, NERVE, BONE, ANYTHING. AN ALL-PURPOSE CELL.

THESE ALL-PURPOSE STEM CELLS ARE A STAGE IN THE EMBRYONIC STATE OF A CREATURE'S DEVELOPMENT.

Osteocyte

DO YOU KNOW ABOUT ES CELLS? EMBRYONIC STEM CELLS.

BUT THEIR EXISTENCE WAS PREDICTED MUCH EARLIER.

Blood Cell

Muscle Cell

Neuron

IN '98, THEY SUCCEEDED IN ISOLATING AND GROWING THEM IN THE LAB.

IS THAT SO? THAT'S QUITE A PAST FOR A CARDINAL...

I'VE COME UP WITH ONE MORE THEORY.

THE CHURCH WAS OPPOSED TO THE PRACTICE, TOO.

OH, YES.

WHAT WOULD THE CARDINAL...?

ES CELLS ARE TAKEN FROM AN UNDIFFERENTIATED MASS THAT WILL GROW INTO A FETUS.

SO THE PRACTICE WAS NEVER TRULY ACCEPTED.

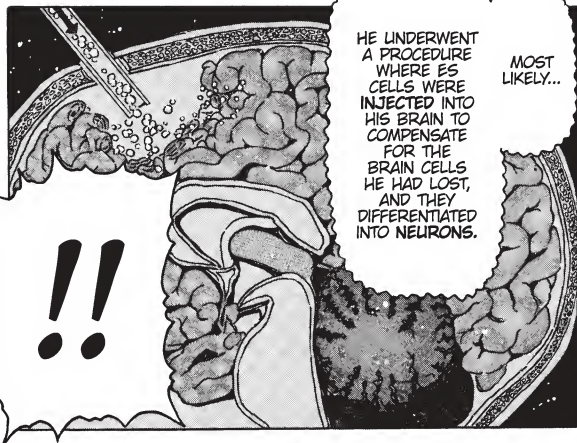
THERE WAS QUITE A BIT OF CONTROVERSY AROUND THEM.

Inner, Cell Mass

Cultured Growth

EG Cell

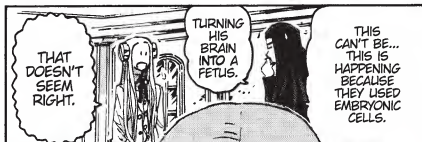
ES Cell



HE UNDERWENT
A PROCEDURE
WHERE ES
CELLS WERE
INJECTED INTO
HIS BRAIN TO
COMPENSATE
FOR THE
BRAIN CELLS
HE HAD LOST,
AND THEY
DIFFERENTIATED
INTO NEURONS.

MOST
LIKELY...

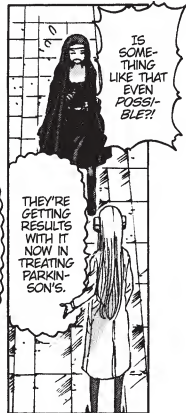
!!



THAT
DOESN'T
SEEM
RIGHT.

TURNING
HIS
BRAIN INTO A
FETUS.

THIS
CAN'T BE...
THIS IS
HAPPENING
BECAUSE
THEY USED
EMBRYONIC
CELLS.



IS
SOME-
THING
LIKE THAT
EVEN
POSSI-
BLE?!

THEY'RE
GETTING
RESULTS
WITH IT
NOW IN
TREATING
PARKIN-
SON'S.

AND
YET...



HE
WAS IN
A GANG
THAT
TERRORIZED
PEOPLE.



THE
CARDINAL
WAS IN A
TOTALLY
DIFFERENT
PLACE.

OVER
TWENTY
YEARS
AGO...



HIS CASE
CAME
TO THE
ATTENTION
OF RE-
SEARCHERS.



A LARGE
PART
OF HIS
BRAIN WAS
DAMAGED,
AND HE
WAS IN A
VEGETATIVE
STATE.

WELL,
HE
DIDN'T
EXACTLY
DIE.

OR HE
WAS
SHOT IN
THE HEAD
BY THE
POLICE
AND DIED.

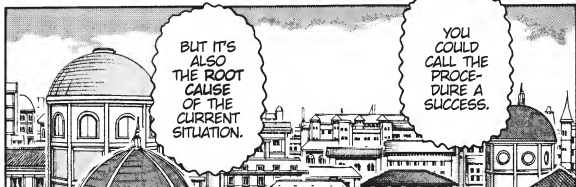


MAYBE
HE GOT
INTO A
FIGHT WITH
OTHER
GANG
MEMBERS.



THE
RESEARCH-
ERS
INJECTED
THE ES
CELLS INTO
HIS
BRAIN.

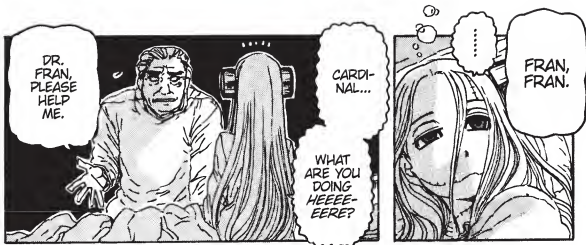
ES CELLS
HADN'T
EVEN BEEN
DISCOVERED
AT THE TIME,
SO THEY
WEREN'T
PROPERLY
DIFFERENTI-
ATED.



BUT IT'S
ALSO
THE ROOT
CAUSE
OF THE
CURRENT
SITUATION.

YOU
COULD
CALL THE
PROCEDURE
A SUCCESS.





AND THERE'S A LOT OF PEOPLE WHO REMEMBER MY FACE.

THE POPE IS A FIGURE WHOSE FACE IS SEEN AROUND THE WORLD.

THIS CANNOT BE.

RAAAH!

AND I SUSPECT I'LL BE TAKING HIS PLACE SOON.

THE CURRENT POPE IS OLD.

I HAD TO REMOVE MYSELF AS A PAPAL CANDIDATE WITHOUT HURTING ANYONE...

I COULDN'T THINK OF ANYTHING ELSE TO DO.

IT WAS ALL A PERFORMANCE.

EX-
ACTLY.

OH!
SO THE WHOLE DEMONIC POSSESSION THING WAS...

....

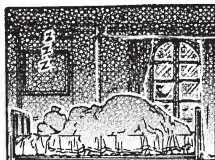
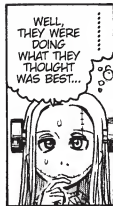
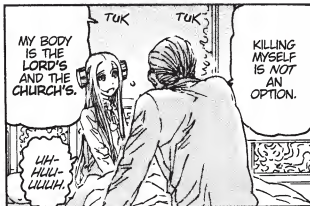
....

AND THEN, THAT GROUP OF IDIOTIC EXORCISTS...

TRIED TO BANISH THE "DEMON" WITHIN ME.

NO MATTER HOW WILD I GOT, MY SUPPORTERS HID IT AND KEPT UP APPEARANCES.

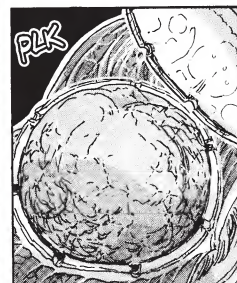
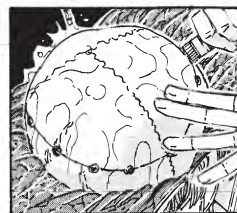
BUT THEY'RE ALL SUCH FOOLS.



IT'S FINE!
I WON'T DIE!
THIS IS
THE WHOLE
REASON
I GOT MY
BRAIN WITH
CHILD!!

ALL YOU
NEED TO
DO IS
TAKE OUT
WHAT'S
INSIDE MY
HEAD!

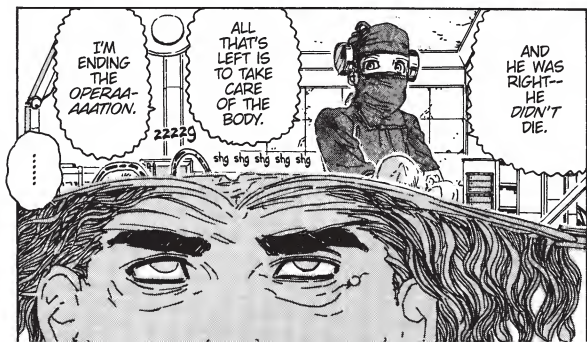
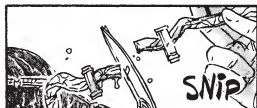
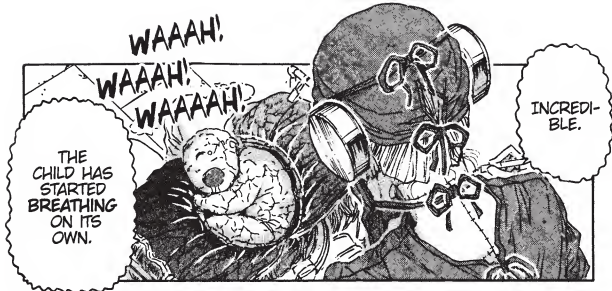


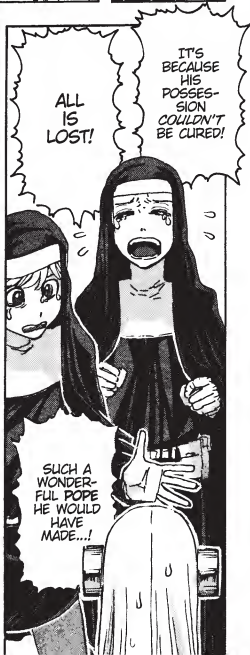
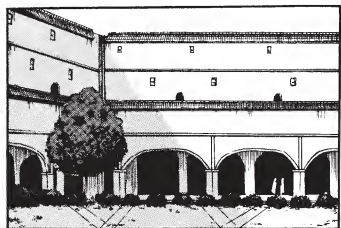
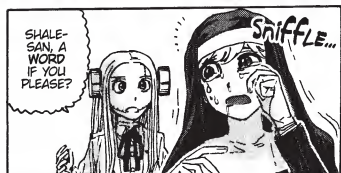
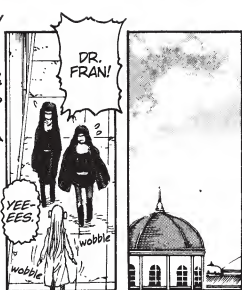
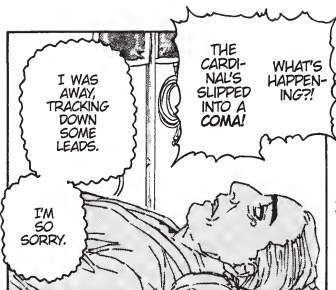


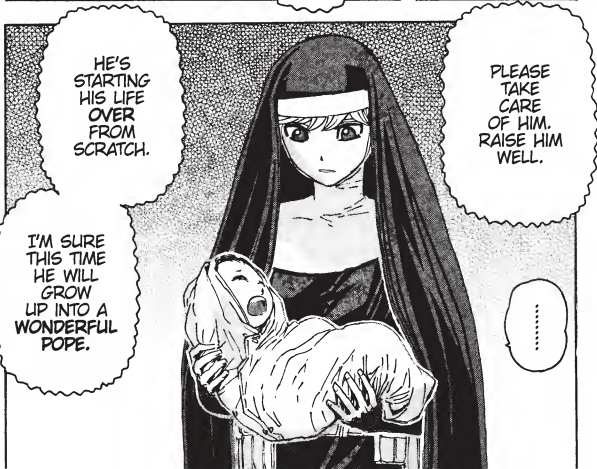
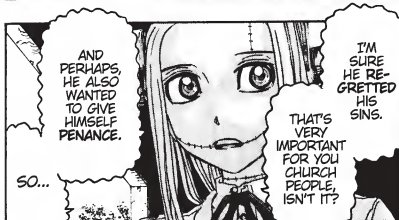
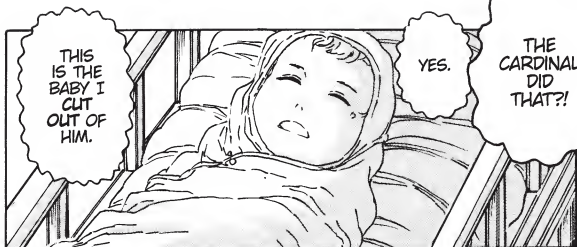
OKAY,
SHALL
WE BEGIN
THE
OPERA-
TION,
THEN?

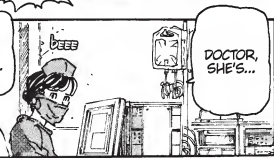
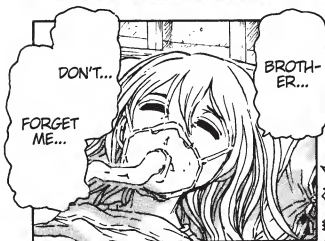
FLASH











Ep.53 / OCTOPUS

I GUESS
IN THIS
WORLD,
NOBODY
CAN HAVE
EVERY-
THING.

AND
HE'S
CLASS
REP, SO
POPUL-
LAR...

THAT'S
JUST SO
HAA-
AAARD.

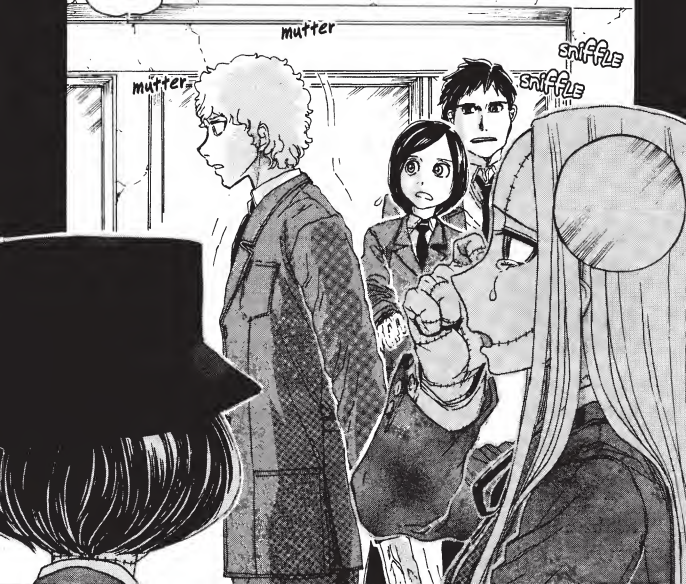
KUSUNOKI-
KUN
LOST HIS
BABY
SISTER.

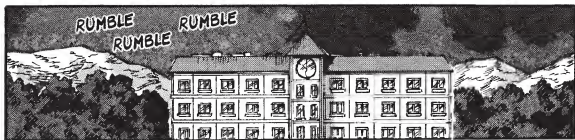
mutter...

mutter

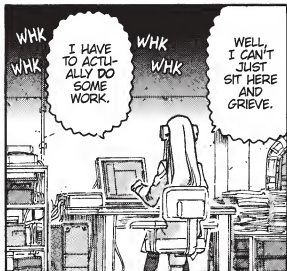
sniffle

sniffle





LET'S SEE, IF THIS IS THE THIRTEENTH GENERATION...



I HAVE TO ACTUALLY DO SOME WORK.

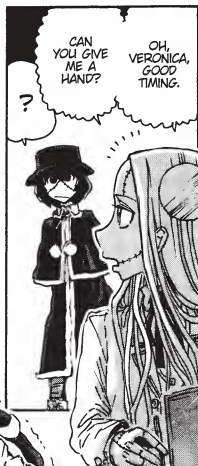
WHK WHK

WELL, I CAN'T JUST SIT HERE AND GRIEVE.

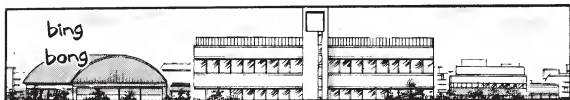
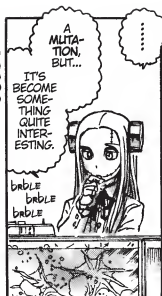


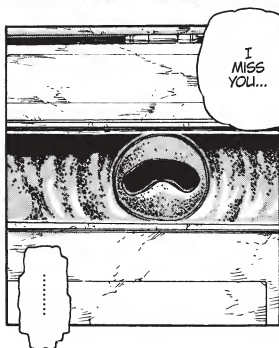
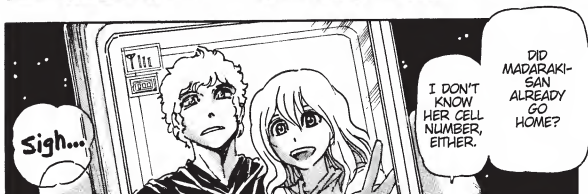
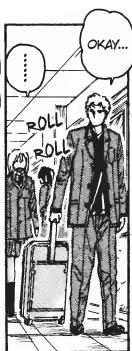
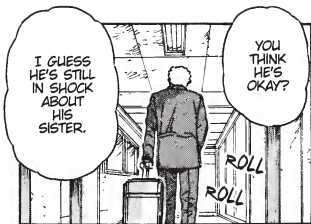
I'LL JUST BE TAKING SOME HEMATOPOIETIC STEM CELLS FROM YOUR SPINAL CORD.

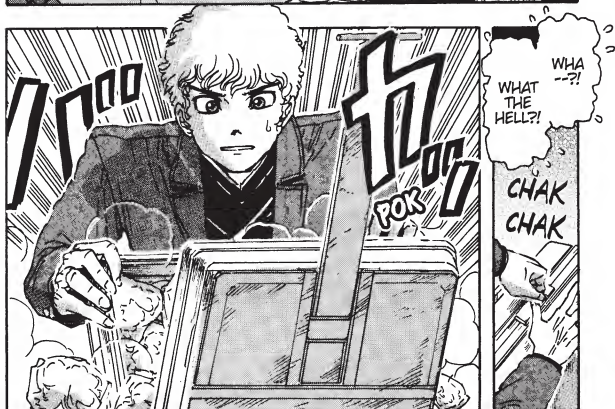
RELAX. YOU'RE OKAY.

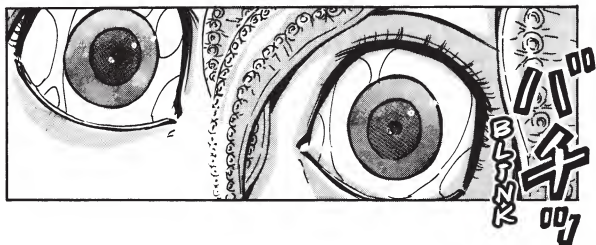
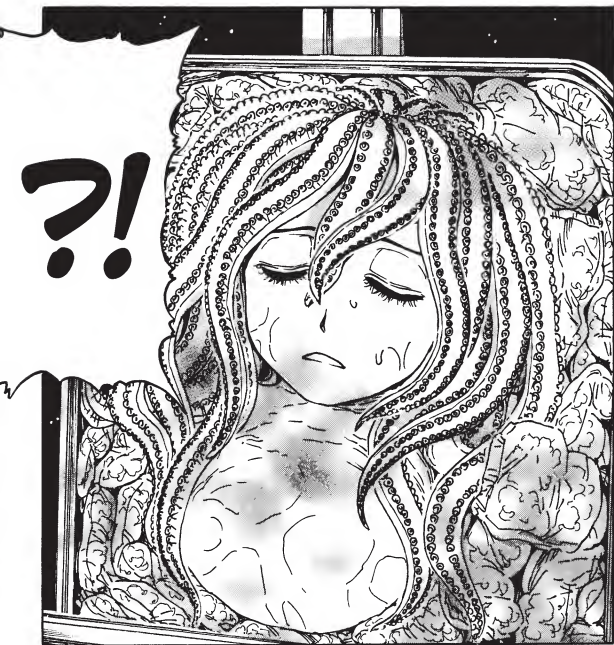


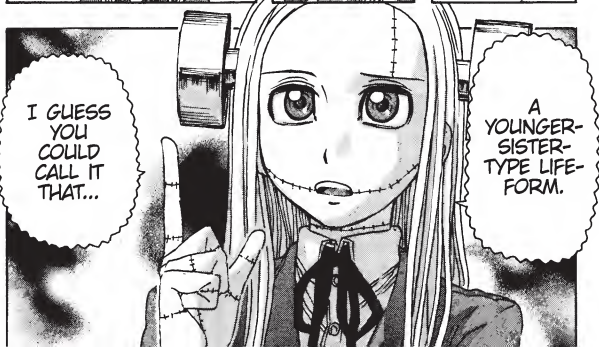
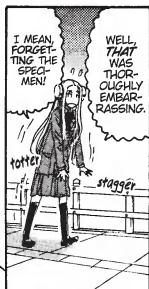
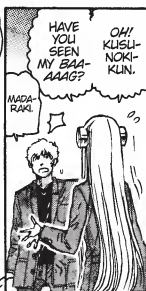
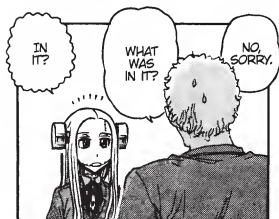
OH, VERONICA, GOOD TIMING.











SO I WANTED TO MAKE SURE I DID THINGS RIGHT UNTIL DISPOSAL.

THE EXPERIMENT STILL ISN'T COMPLETE...

DISPOSAL?!

IT'S AN EXPERIMENT TO SEE HOW CLOSE TO HUMAN IT CAN BECOME.

WELL, MAYBE A DEMI-HUMAN.

YOUNGER-SISTER-TYPE...?

NO.

I'LL LET YOU KNOW IF I FIND IT, THOUGH.

STAGGER...

KUSU-NOKI-KUN, ARE YOU SURE YOU HAVEN'T SEEN IT?

AND SHE'S SQUOOSHY ALL OVER. IT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SHE HAS ANY BONES.

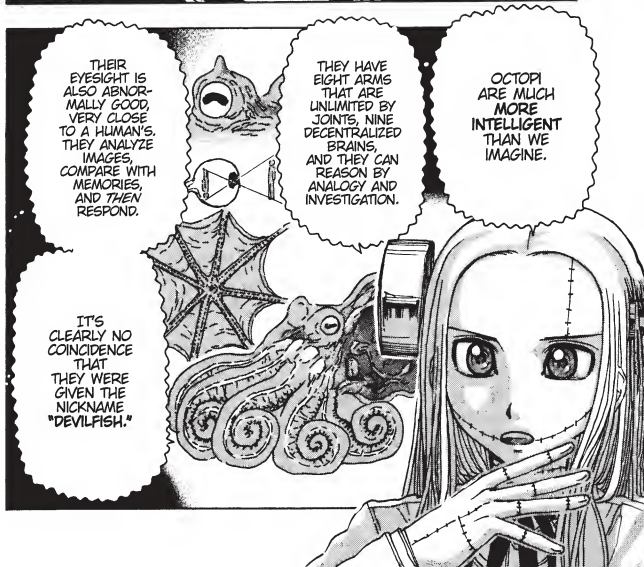
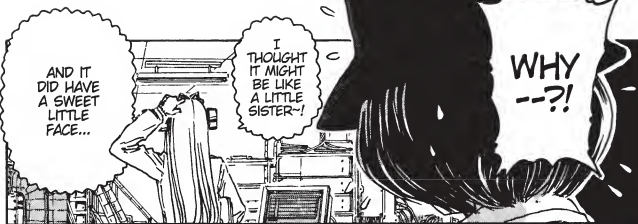
HER HAIR'S LIKE TENTACLES.

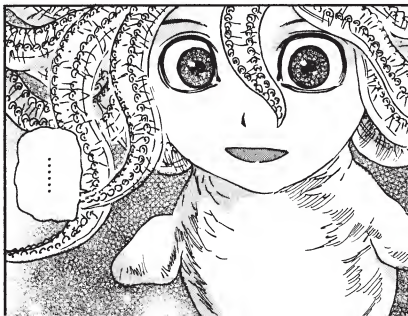
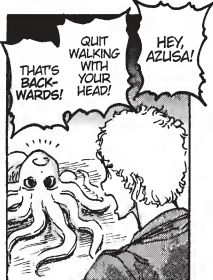
A DEMI-HUMAN.

HOW IS THIS POSSIBLE?









IT'S
NOT JUST
REFLEXIVE,
EVEN IF THE
THOUGHT
PROCESS
IS SIMPLE,
IT'S THINKING
BEFORE IT
ACTS.

AND IT
CAN TELL
WHO IT'S
DEALING WITH,
SO IT SELECTS
THE MOST
EFFECTIVE
DISGUISE
FOR THAT
OPPONENT.

IT USES
OVER
FORTY
TYPES OF
CAMOU-
FLAGE.

THERE'S
A SPECIES
CALLED
THE
MIMIC
OCTOPUS.

SO, AN
OCTOPUS,
HUH...?

I DON'T KNOW
WHAT METHODS
IT WOULD USE
TO ENSURE ITS
SURVIVAL WITH
A HUMAN
OPPONENT.

SO
THEN,
THAT
SPECI-
MEN...

IT MIGHT
STRIKE
AT A
HUMAN'S
WEAKEST
POINT.

BUT
IF ITS
SURVIVAL
WERE AT
STAKE...

IF THAT
WERE ALL
IT DID,
THERE
WOULDN'T
BE AN
ISSUE.

SO, IT
WOULD
TRY TO
GET FOOD
OR SOME-
THING.

Food
Food

Ha ha ha!

ARE YOU AN OCTO-PUS?

LIKE AN OCTO-PUS...

YOU'RE ALL PUFFED UP!

pwook

YOU CAN'T, THOUGH.

WHAT? YOU WANT TO GO, TOO?

I'M OFF TO SCHOOL.

OKAY, AZUSA.

WRIGGLE
WRIGGLE

WRIGGLE

OKAY, AZUSA-!

HUH? A BAG?

...

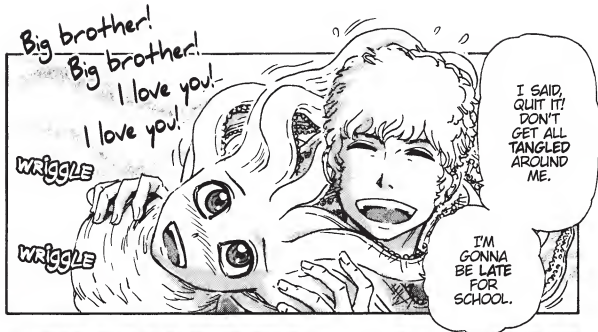
I'M GOING.

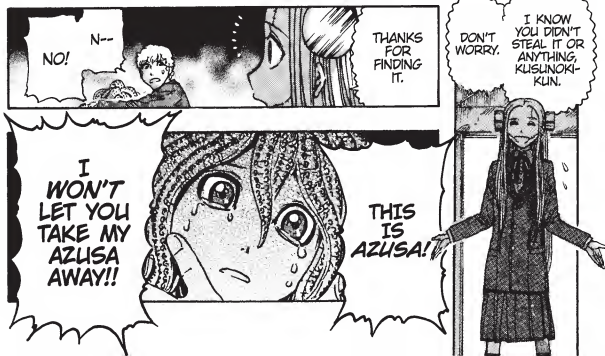
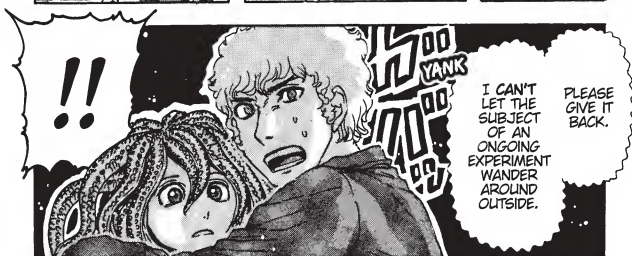
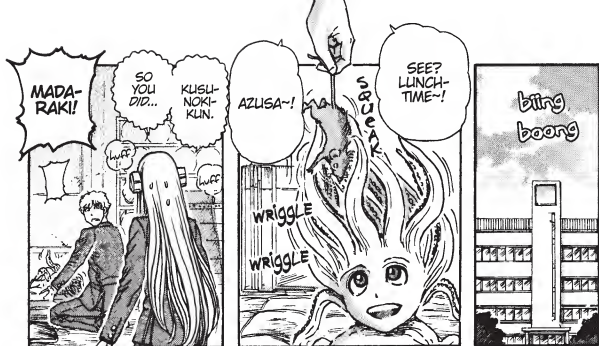
THAT'S A GREAT DISGUISE AND ALL, BUT IT STILL DOESN'T MAKE YOU A BAG.

THAT'S THAT THEN.

AZUSA!

WRIGGLE





IT'S PRE-
TENDING
TO BE YOUR
SISTER SO
YOU'LL
PROTECT IT.

THAT'S
CAMOU-
FLAGE!

TAKE
AZUSA
AWAY...

IF
YOU'RE
GOING
TO...

MADA-
RAKI!

I
WILL
...!

IS THAT
SPECIMEN
CON-
TROLLING
YOUR
WILL?

WHY
ARE
YOU
REACTING
LIKE
THIS?

WHAT
ON
EARTH
...?

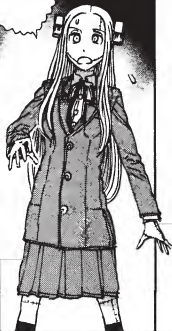
KUSU-
NOKI-
KUN...

KUSU-
NOKI-
KUN!!

AAH!

OUT
OF
MY
WAY!

SHOVE!



I
THOUGHT
YOU WERE
EATING
A LOT
LATELY...



.....



BROTH-
ER...



I CAN'T
BELIEVE
HOW MUCH
YOU'VE
GROWN.



Gulp...



WHEN IT'S
IN ITS
NATURAL
ENVIRON-
MENT, IT'S
ACTUALLY
OVER-
CLOCKED.

IT HAS
SO MUCH
POTENTIAL,
IT'S
ALMOST
CREEPY.

MAYBE I
UNDERES-
TIMATED
THE
OCTOPUS.

YOU
OKAY,
FRAN?

AHH....

CAW
CAAW

OF
COURSE,
THEY'RE
UNIQUE
AMONG
MOL-
LUSKS.

THEY CAN
MANIPULATE
FOUND
OBJECTS
INTO
ARMOR OR
WEAPONS.

BUT
THEY
CAN
USE
TOOLS.

!

I KNEW
THEY
WERE
SMART.

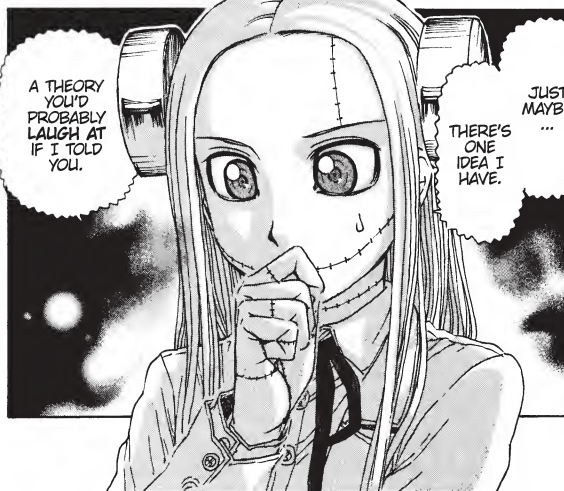
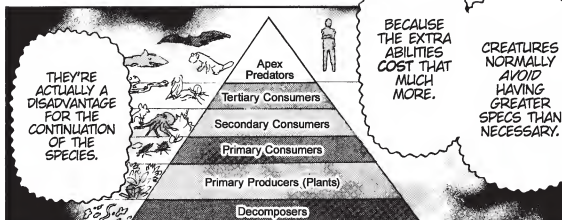
THEY
HAVE
MORE
FACULTIES
THAN
THEY
NEED.

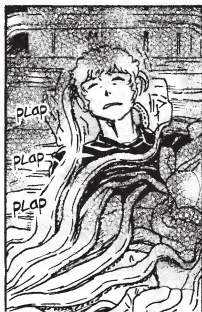
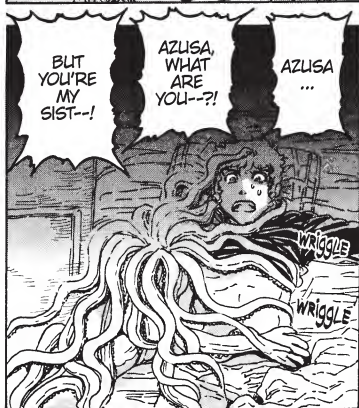
THERE
ARE
JUST TOO
MANY
THINGS
THEY
CAN DO.

THEY
REMEM-
BER
THE WAY
IT WAS
CLOSED...

BUT
EVEN IF
YOU LOCK
THEM IN
AND
PUT A LID
ON THEIR
TANK...

AND USE
THAT
INFORMA-
TION TO
OPEN
IT.

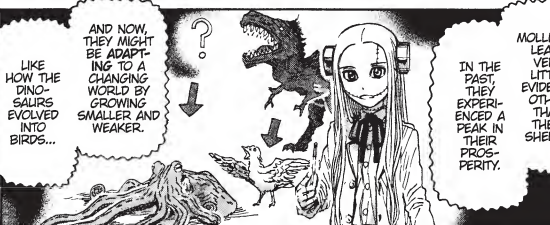






THEY'RE
CURRENTLY
ON A SLOW
DECLINE,
AREN'T
THEY?

THE
MOLLUSKS
HAVE
STOPPED
THRIVING.

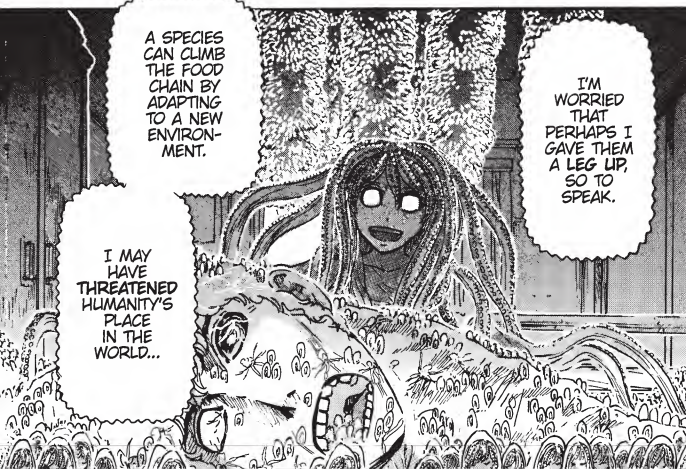


LIKE
HOW THE
DINO-
SAURS
EVOLVED
INTO
BIRDS...

AND NOW,
THEY MIGHT
BE ADAPT-
ING TO A
CHANGING
WORLD BY
GROWING
SMALLER AND
WEAKER.

IN THE
PAST,
THEY
EXPERI-
ENCED A
PEAK IN
THEIR
PROSP-
ERITY.

MOLLUSKS
LEAVE
VERY
LITTLE
EVIDENCE
OTHER
THAN
THEIR
SHELLS.

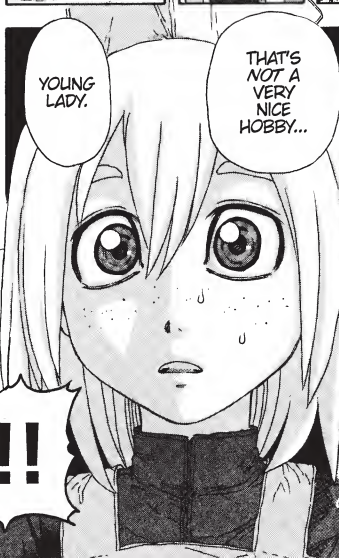
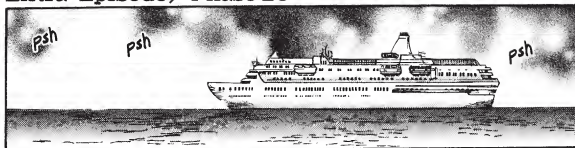


A SPECIES
CAN CLIMB
THE FOOD
CHAIN BY
ADAPTING
TO A NEW
ENVIRON-
MENT.

I MAY
HAVE
THREATENED
HUMANITY'S
PLACE
IN THE
WORLD...

I'M
WORRIED
THAT
PERHAPS I
GAVE THEM
A LEG UP,
SO TO
SPEAK.

Extra Episode / Phase 20



PLEASE
CALL
ME
RAN.

RAN...

WHAT'S
YOUR
NAME?

STEALING
IN A
PLACE
LIKE
THIS?

poof

A PARTY
CRUISE
WITH
THE TOP
PEOPLE
FROM EVERY
INDUSTRY,
CELEBRITIES.

poof

HER
MAIDEN
VOYAGE.

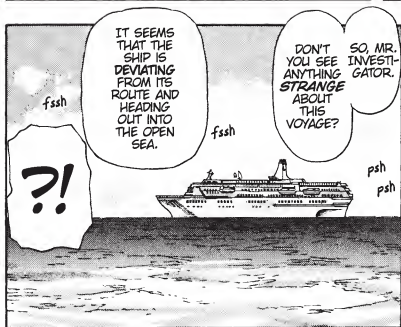
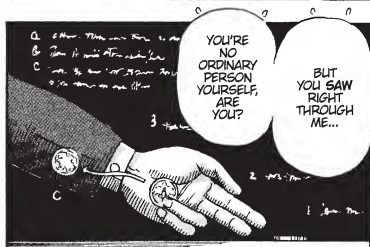
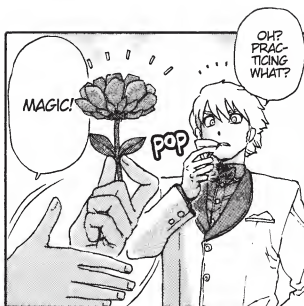
THE
LUXURY
CRUISE
SHIP,
20
PHASE.

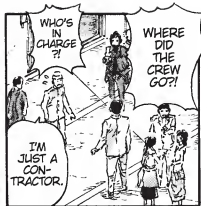
hahaha

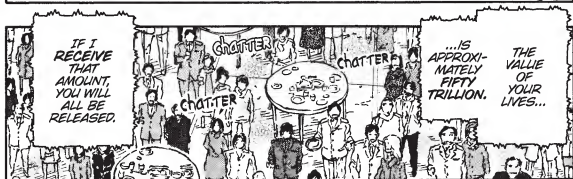
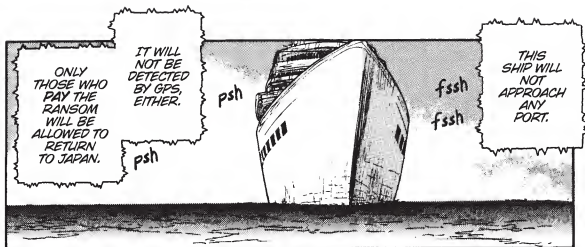
YOU
SHOULD
AT LEAST
CHOOSE
THE RIGHT
TIME AND
PLACE.

poof

Phase 20
7/11/11/11/11







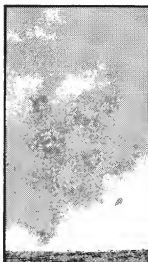
THE BOAT
MIGHT
HAVE A
JAMMING
SIGNAL.

THROWING
MY CELL
INTO THE
OCEAN.

WHAT
ARE
YOU
DOING?

BUT IF I
SET IT
ADrift
AT SEA,
IT SHOULD
SEND
OUT OUR
GENERAL
LOCATION.

Kachik
SKRK



RESIS-
TANCE
IS
POINT-
LESS...

zsh

E
E
E
E
E
E
K!

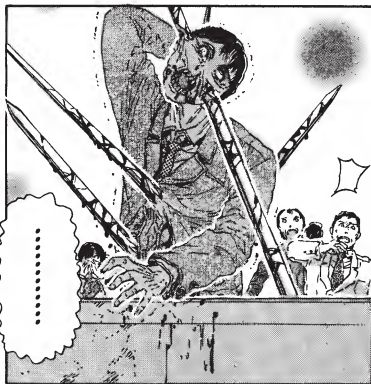
THIS
SHIP
WAS
BUILT
TO BE A
PRISON.

THERE
ARE
TRAPS
EVERY-
WHERE.

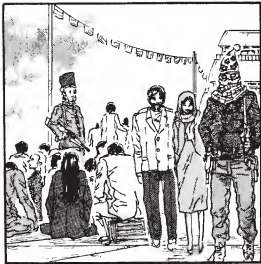


SOME-
ONE
PLEASE
FIND--

HERE
WE
GO!



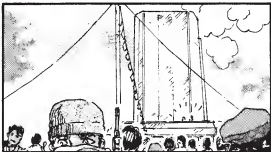




PHASE
20'S
PLANNED
SOMETHING
HUGE
HERE.

SO,
A MASS
KIDNAP-
PING
FOR MONEY...

JUST
LIKE
YOU
SAID.



GRAND
PLANS.

A KEEN,
BUT
ALMOST
LOATH-
SOME
BRAIN.

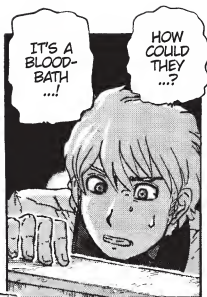
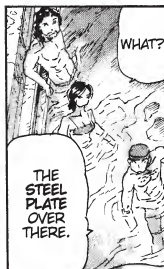
HE WAS
IN A PLACE
BEYOND
GOOD
OR EVIL.
EVERYONE
WAS
FASCINATED
BY HIM.

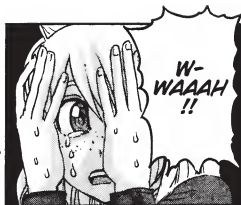
ONE
TIME,
MY
GRANDPA
TOLD
ME A
STORY.

ABOUT A
MAN OF
ILLUSION
WHO
APPEARED
FROM THE
DARKNESS
AND DISAP-
PEARED
INTO IT.









W-
WAAAH
!!



I TO-
TALLY
CAN'T
LOOK!

IS IT
THAT
BAD?!



H
R
N
G
H
!

UNH...



HE CER-
TAINLY
RECOV-
ERED
FAST...



THIS
WAS REALLY
EXPEN-
SIVE,
TOO...



I GOT
VOMIT
ON MY
SUIT.

RUD

RUD



IT'S
THE
DRUM
I USE
FOR A
DISGUISE
IN MY
MAGIC
ACT!

LOOK!

WHAT'S
THAT?

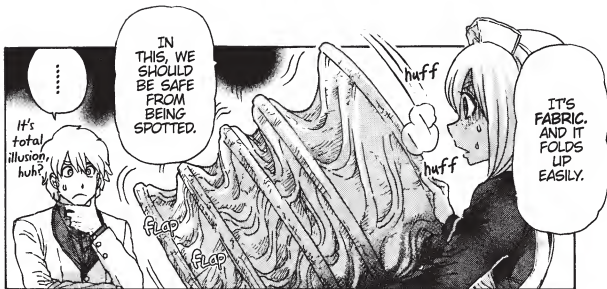


USE
THE
EM-
PLOYEE
PAS-
SAGE.

COME
ON,
LET'S GO
TO MY
CABIN.

HUH?

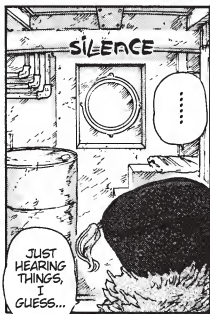
AND
MAYBE
I CAN
USE
THAT...



It's total illusion, huh?

IN THIS, WE SHOULD BE SAFE FROM BEING SPOTTED.

IT'S FABRIC. AND IT FOLDS UP EASILY.



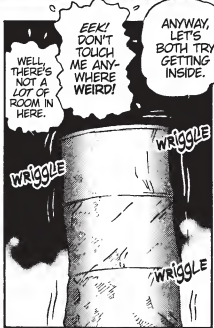
SILENCE

JUST HEARING THINGS, I GUESS...



BAM!

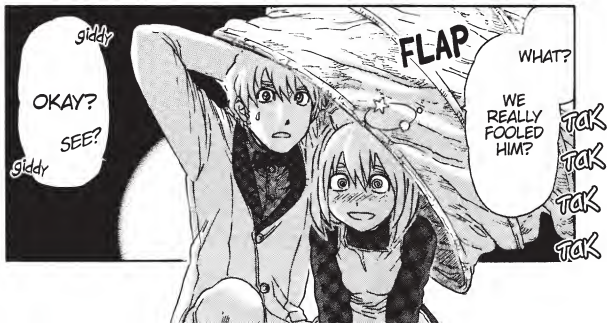
SOMEONE IN HERE?!



WELL, THERE'S NOT A LOT OF ROOM IN HERE.

EEEK! DON'T TOUCH ME ANYWHERE WEIRD!

ANYWAY, LET'S BOTH TRY GETTING INSIDE.



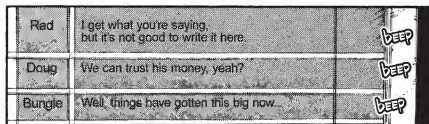
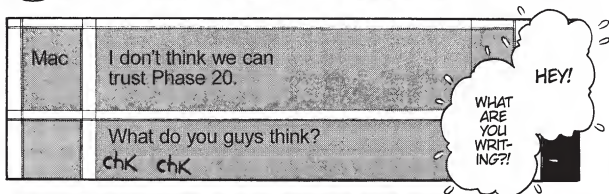
OKAY?
SEE?

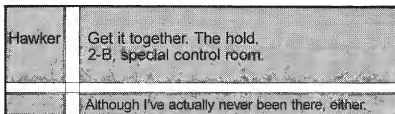
FLAP

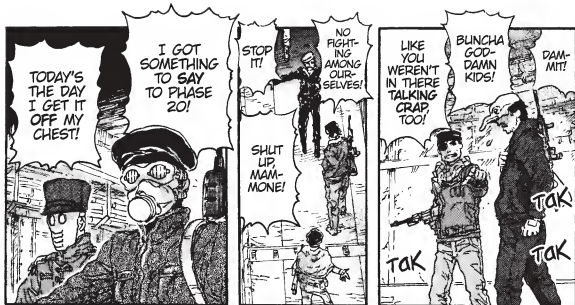
WE REALLY FOOLED HIM?

WHAT?

TAK
TAK
TAK
TAK

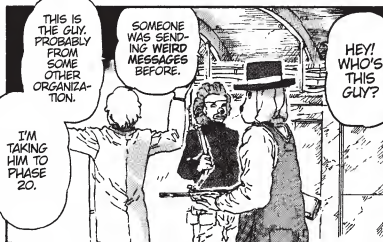


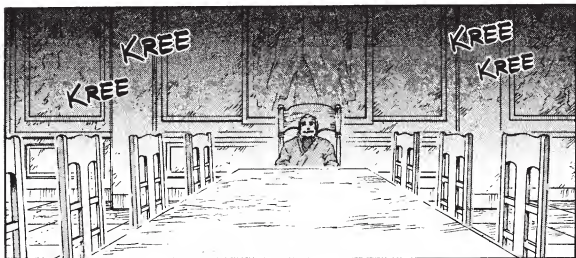
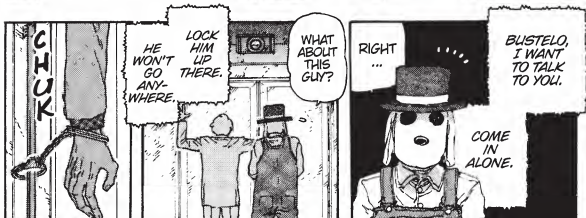
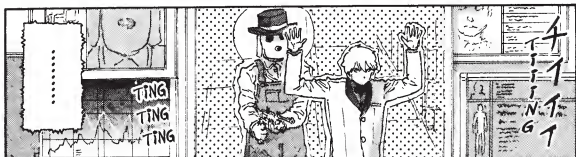
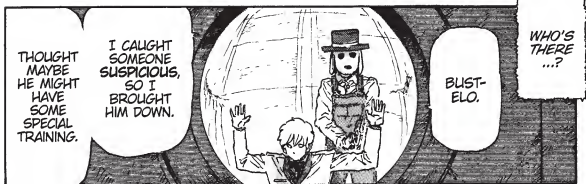




Andy	If we all go at once, Phase 20'll be able to do whatever he wants. Maybe we should meet up first and talk?	chk
Hawker	Where?	chk









THE
FAMED
AND
MYSTERI-
OUS
THIRD
PHASE
20.

FLTA-
SOMO
RAN.



SO,
YOU'VE
FINALLY
COME.

I
SEE.

YOU...

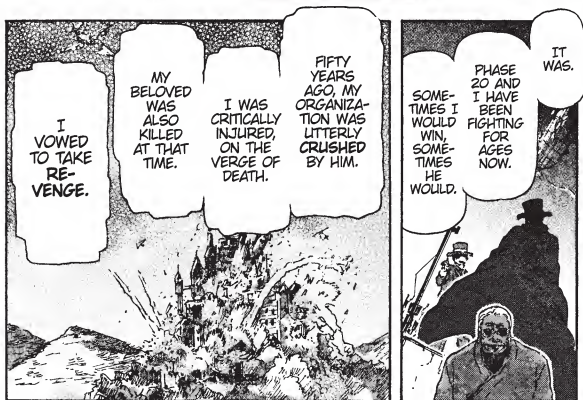


IT WAS
ALL JUST
A TRAP
TO DRAW
OUT THE
REAL
THING.

A RUMOR
THAT
PHASE 20
WAS
WORKING
IN THE
SHADOWS.

GATH-
ERING
FAMOUS
PEOPLE
FOR HER
MAIDEN
VOYAGE.

THE
SHIP
NAMED
20
PHASE.



I
VOWED
TO TAKE
RE-
VENGE.

MY
BELOVED
WAS
ALSO
KILLED
AT THAT
TIME.

I WAS
CRITICALLY
INJURED,
ON THE
VERGE OF
DEATH.

FIFTY
YEARS
AGO, MY
ORGANIZA-
TION WAS
LITTERLY
CRUSHED
BY HIM.

SOME-
TIMES I
WOULD
WIN,
SOME-
TIMES
HE
WOULD.

PHASE
20 AND
I HAVE
BEEN
FIGHTING
FOR
AGES
NOW.

IT
WAS.

IT WAS
AS IF HE
MELTED
AWAY
INTO THE
NIGHT...

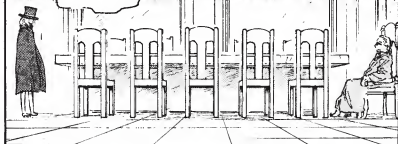


BUT HE
NEVER
SHOWED
HIS FACE
AGAIN.

I SOLD
THE
ORGANI-
ZATION
AND HAD
THIS SHIP
BUILT.

I MADE
MY FINAL
GAMBLE.

I DON'T
HAVE
MUCH
TIME
LEFT.



I'VE
CONTIN-
UED TO
MAKE
FOR PREPER-
FIFTY
YEARS.

SO
INSTEAD,
I REBUILT
THE
ORGANI-
ZATION
FROM
ZERO.



I'M
GLAD
YOU
MADE IT
IN TIME.

YOU.

YOU
CAN'T
ACTU-
ALLY--



AND
THEN
YOU
CAME...



LET'S
KILL EACH
OTHER
WITHOUT
END,
PHASE...
TWEEN...

LET'S
FIGHT
ON THE
OTHER
SIDE.

NOW,
LET'S
GO...





ARE
YOU
OKAY
?!

KINDAI-
CHI-
SAN!

THE
SHIP'S
SINK-
ING!

KLATTER

RAN!
WE
HAVE
TO GET
OUT OF
HERE!

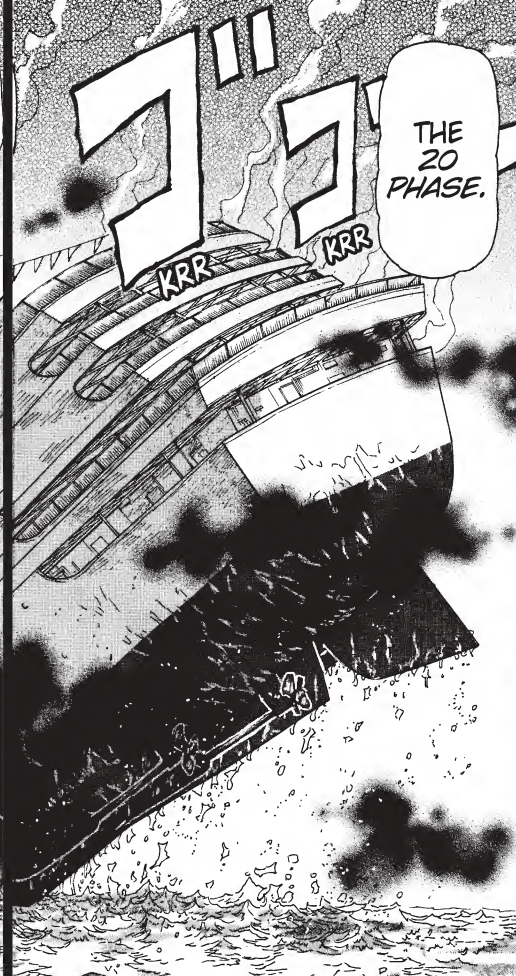
KLATTER

KINDAI-
CHI-
SAN!

RAN!

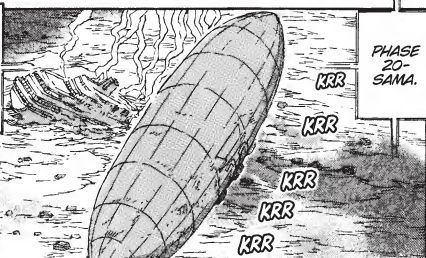
WHOD

WHOD





GO AHEAD AND GET ON THE BOAT...



PHASE 20-SAMA.

KINDAI-
CHI-
KUN.

WE'LL
MEET
AGAIN...

FARE-
WELL.



I'M NOT
LET-
TING--

CLANK

WHEN
DID
YOU
--?!

WH
--?!

chik
clang

PHASE
TW--!

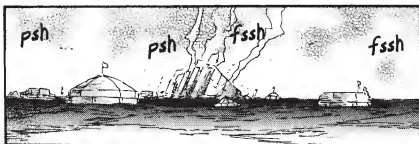
slap

**RAN
!!**



**PHASE
20!**

**I WILL
CATCH
YOU
ONE OF
THESE
DAYS!**



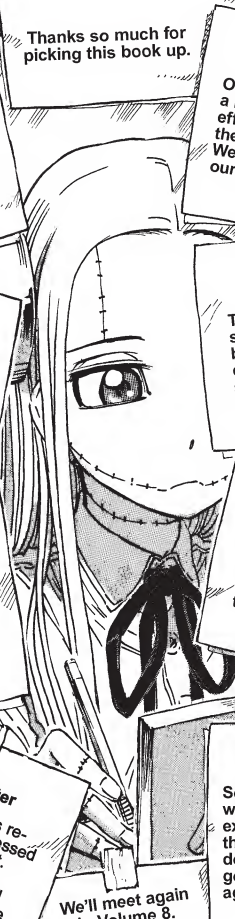
**THIS
INCIDENT
TRIGGERED
THE REAL
START
OF HER
ACTIVITIES.**

**PHASE
20...**

**WITH A
CHILD'S
APPEAR-
ANCE, BUT
SUPERIOR
ABILITIES
AND AN
ORGANI-
ZATION
BEHIND
HER.**

**SOMEDAY,
I, KINDAICHI
YUGO
WILL MOST
CERTAINLY
CATCH
HER.**

**DAMN
YOU,
PHASE
20!**



Thanks so much for
picking this book up.

Zombies

I thought of this when I was watching a zombie thing. In worlds with zombies, zombie movies and games don't exist. Although, they did exist in the worlds of *Return of the Living Dead* and *Shaun of the Dead*...

Gav-sensei

Basically, Gav-san noticed Fran there, but she pretended she didn't. I hate it when people ask me why.

Sentinel 4

This time, even I was surprised that Fran only shows up for two or three pages. The more Sentinels there are, the harder it is to draw.

Octopus Sister

Apparently, octopus research hasn't progressed as much as I thought. What is this creature even? I mean, its head is its hands, it has three hearts, nine brains...

Cannibal

Once your health goes a little downhill, terrible effects follow one after the other like dominos. We should take care of ourselves.

Long-lived

Trehalose is normally such an everyday thing, but when it was discovered, it must have seemed like this substance full of dreams.

ES Cells

As soon as they were discovered, they were banned around the world. It's rare to find a technology this despised.

20

Sorry to everyone who was expecting the usual extra. I'd like to continue this as a series, but I don't know. If everything goes well, we'll see Ran again in the next volume.

We'll meet again
in Volume 8.
See you then.



FRANKEN • FRAN

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

FRANKEN • FRAN

story and art by Katsuhisa Kigitsu

VOLUME 7

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FRANKEN FRAN VOLUME 7

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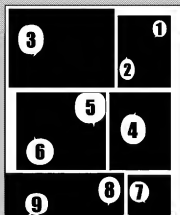
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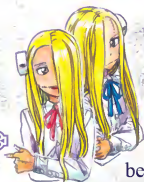
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READING DIRECTIONS

This book reads from *right to left*, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. It may seem backwards at





Only the strangest
of patients seek out the
mysterious, brilliant, and
beautiful surgeon Fran Madaraki:
zombies, cannibals, the demon-possessed,
and just plain, bewildered human beings. Listening
carefully to their troubles and desperate wishes, Fran always
achieves the impossible with her rare skills. From the living
mascots of Rolling World to the Sentinals' final stand, all
the stories converge in the final chapter of this
sentimental medical horror!



OLDER TEEN (16+)

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